Manglona named to USA Today's 'Women of the Century' PAGE 2
Child saved from near-drowning at Sugar Dock. PAGE 5

75¢

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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CNMI logs 50th positive case

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

The CNMI marked a grim milestone last Friday with one more added to its total of persons who've been confirmed positive for the virus that causes COVID-19, boosting the CNMI's total to 50.

Also, it was announced late Thursday that mass testing

See 50TH on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Aug. 16, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	477	39	516
Recovered	343	2	345
Active	127	39	166
Deaths	6*	0	6*
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			27,239

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	49	1	50
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			12,681**

*Total includes a sailor from the USS *Theodore Roosevelt.*

**Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Source: Joint Information Center – Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

NMI enters 8th month under emergency

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres renewed last Friday the declaration of a state of public health emergency and extended the declaration of the state of significant emergency on the islands due to COVID-19. This places the CNMI under the state of emergency for the eighth straight month.

"COVID-19 continues

See EMERGENCY on Page 4

CONFIRMED
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' appointees to the Commonwealth Elections Commission take their oath before the members of the Senate Executive Appointments and Government Investigations committee on Aug. 12 on Capital Hill.

Story on Page 2

IVA MAURIN

Dotts

IPI open to losing casino exclusivity

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LCC's inability to pay the $15.5 million annual license fee this year could possibly be seen as an opportunity for the Legislature to revisit the statute and to open up casino licenses to more applicants.

» 5 casino operators a possibility

That would mean IPI possibly losing its exclusivity on Saipan but not its

See IPI on Page 4

Anonymous tip started probe vs Ataligs

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Office of the Public Auditor investigator Travis Hurst testified Friday in federal court how an anonymous tip about a large delegation from Rota going to Guam for a political rally started the investigation that led to the indictment of Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig and his girlfriend, Evelyn Atalig.

Hurst is expected to continue his testimony today, Mon-

See TIP on Page 4

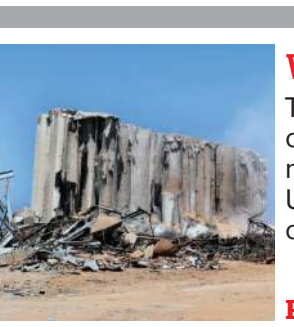
INSIDE

BUSINESS
Matson subsidiaries are all rated among the top freight transportation companies in a survey.

PAGE 11

NATION
The U.S. Postal Service has raised the possibility that millions of voters may not be counted.

PAGE 12



WORLD
There can be no financial bailout for Lebanon, says David Hale, U.S. undersecretary of state.

PAGE 13

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Manglona named to USA Today's 'Women of the Century'

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona is one of 19 women from the U.S. territories, including *West Side Story* star Rita Moreno from Puerto Rico, who were recognized by the USA Today Network as its "Women of the Century" for making significant contributions to their communities.

Manglona

The Women of the Century article, written by USA Today's Coral Murphy-Marcos and Lindsay Schnell, commemorate this month's 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, when women were granted the right to vote in the United States.

USA Today's list features women from the "five permanently inhabited territories"—Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

"These are women whose work and contributions were felt directly by their territory community," USA Today said.

The article stated that women in Puerto Rico obtained the legal right to vote in 1935, while women in the CNMI had to wait until 1978.

USA Today said that, in 1950, President Truman signed the Guam Organic Act, which established a government in Guam and declared those born there to be United States citizens; the act also granted women the right to vote.

With respect to Manglona, USA Today noted that Manglona became the first person from the CNMI to be appointed to a federal court in 2011. Prior to her appointment, Manglona was a Superior Court judge. In 2002 Manglona became the first female attorney general for the CNMI.

Manglona graduated with honors from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1996, and from the University of California-Berkeley in 1990.

In a Facebook post, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) congratulated Manglona for over the weekend for the USA Today recognition. "It was certainly a highlight of my time in office to assist in the nomination and confirmation of the first person of Northern Marianas descent to serve in the federal judiciary," Sablan said.

Rosa Dolores Alverio, more popularly known as Rita Moreno, is the Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony award winning artist from Puerto

See MANGLONA on Page 4

Senate confirms CEC appointees

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

The CNMI Senate unanimously confirmed Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' appointees to the Commonwealth Elections Commission last Friday.

The new commissioners are Lelanie I. Manglona, for Rota; John D. Attao, for Tinian; and Doris Ann A. Atalig and Vicenta A. Rosario, for Saipan. They will each serve a term of four years.

Besides Manglona, who is currently working at the Department of Finance, all three are new to the commission. Attao is a retired U.S. Air Force technical sergeant, Atalig is an administrative professional, and Rosario is a claim examiner at the Commonwealth Medicaid Agency.

Prior to their confirmation, Sen. Vinnie Sablan (Ind-Saipan) brought up factors and recommendations for the commissioners to consider, including population and the need to improve voter turnout, economic challenges, and the audit report released in January by the Office of the Public Auditor.

The OPA report cited CEC's lack of accountability on used and unused ballots in the 2018 general elections, and the commission's lack of standard process for the accounting of the ballots, preventing CEC from identifying potential electoral fraud or irregularities.

Sen. Francisco Borja (R-Tinian) echoed Sablan's sentiment in addressing concerns on the accountability of the ballots, and asked the commissioners to find ways to improve on issues surrounding the elections, including absentee voting and the registration of voters.

With three of the commissioners new to the system, Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) noted the changing times and the need to work on "archaic" policies at the Elections Commission.

"Once you are confirmed, you hold a fiduciary responsibility to that position. You should follow the guidelines and follow the rules. Your role is to take a look at what's happening, what needs to be done, what needs to be changed, and then recommend policy changes to us if it is not working," he said.

NMI delegates excited for convention

The NMI Democratic Party announced yesterday its delegation for this week's virtual convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Members of the delegation are as follows with the party's automatic delegates:

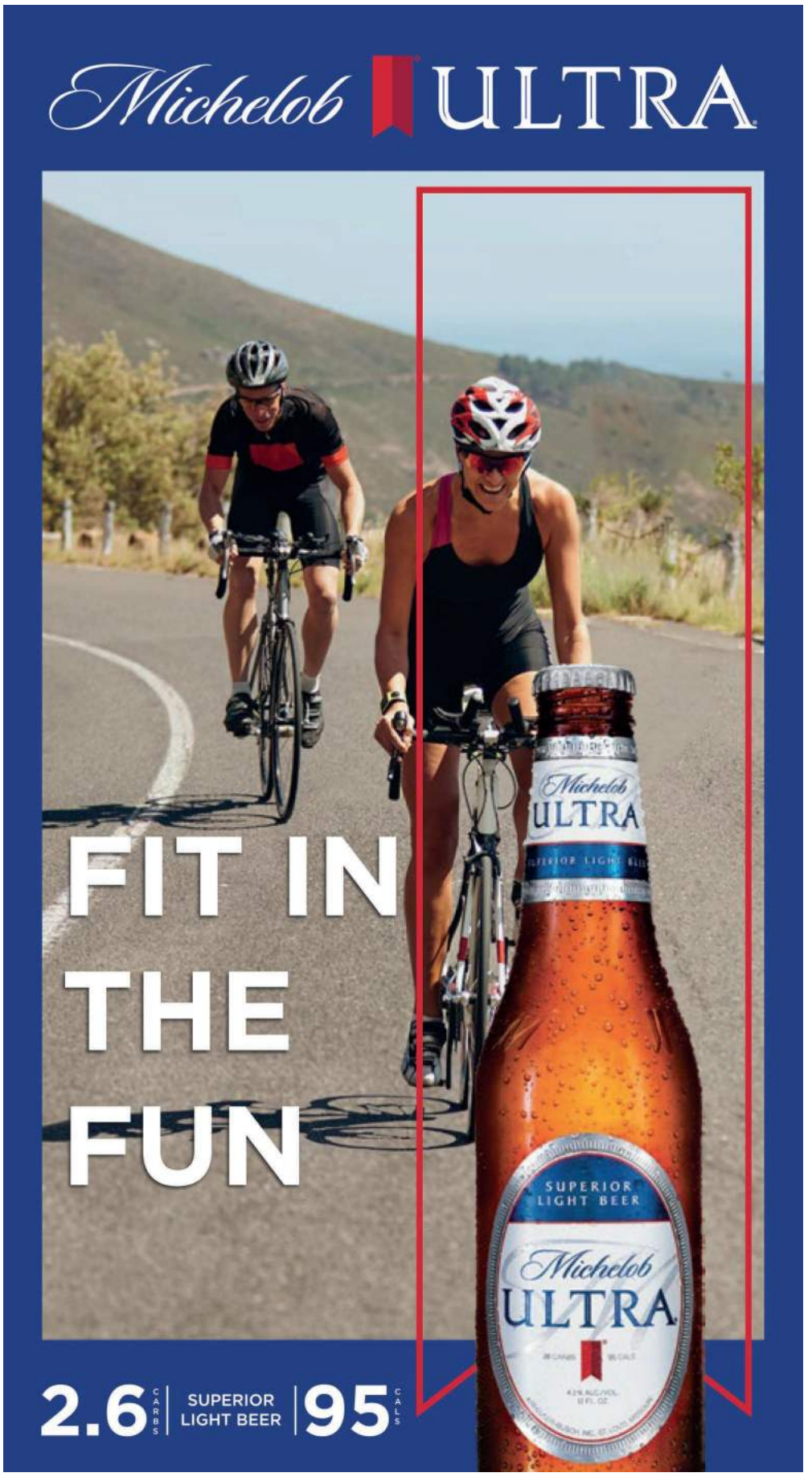
- Party chair/delegation chair Nola Kileleman Hix
- Party vice chair Daniel Quitugua
- DNC National Committeeman Michael White,
- DNC National Committeewoman/CNMI Rep. Tina Sablan
- NMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan
- Joany Flores from Tinian as the delegation's page.

The pledged delegates to Bernie Sanders are Stephen Woodruff (Rules Rep), Fran Castro (Credentials Rep), Sophia Perez, Bertran Palacios, and Christian Punzalan (Alternate).

The pledged delegates to Joe Biden are Ambrose Bennett (Platform Rep), Marie Camacho, and Eloise Lopez (Alternate).

"I am so proud of our diverse delegation that consists of a balance between males and females, seniors and youths, Tinian and Rota representation, Chamorros, Carolinians, African Americans, Caucasians, Asian Americans, people with disabilities, and LGBQT+ representation. The NMI is a melting pot and showcasing our diversity is what makes the Democratic Party a party of inclusion," said Hix.

The 2020 Democratic National Convention will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Aug. 17-20. The Democratic National Convention is the formal event during which delegates of the Democratic Party choose the party's nominees for president and vice president in the 2020 election. At the convention, the Democratic Party also adopts the official Democratic Party platform as well as the rules and procedures governing party activities, including the nomination process for presidential candidates in the next election cycle. For more info visit: www.demconvention.com. ***(PR)***



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Man allegedly breaks front windshield of sports car

A man with a prior conviction has been arrested after video footage from a surveillance camera allegedly caught him using a metal bar to break the front windshield of a sports car in the parking lot of an apartment in Chalan Kanoa.

Lucas Taitano Manglona, 42, was arrested for criminal mischief and was taken before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho set Manglona's cash bail at $3,000 in a bail hearing last Friday morning.

Assistant attorney general Samantha Vickery appeared for the government. The court appointed a private counsel, Marcia Schultz, for Manglona as there is conflict with the Office of the Public Defender to represent him.

Preliminary hearing will be on Aug. 24 at 2:30pm.

Police detective Freddie Guerrero stated in his report that the Department of Public Safety dispatched police officers to Tasi Homes Apartment last Wednesday at 4:04pm after receiving a report of a criminal mischief incident.

Guerrero said a responding police officer saw that a gray 370Z Nissan sedan in the parking lot has two punctured holes on the front windshield. The officer also saw a metal pipe left on the hood of the vehicle.

The officer viewed the surveillance footage of the incident and identified the suspect as Manglona, who was also involved in previous criminal cases. At 4:44pm that same day, police located Manglona at the nearby Sugar Dock and arrested him.

Later that night, the owner of the car, who is currently in China and was informed by the apartment's staff, contacted the police and stated that he bought the car from Joeten Motors. Police learned from Joeten Motors that the front windshield of a 370Z sedan costs $1,732.

Guerrero said that, based on his review of the apartment's surveillance footage, Manglona, who was shirtless and carrying a metal bar, walked into the inner parking lot of Tasi Homes, then threw the metal bar to the front windshield of the sedan, and then left.

A witness notified the apartment's management about the incident.

In May 2016, Camacho sentenced Manglona to three years imprisonment after he pleaded guilty to burglary for breaking into a house of a couple in San Vicente and stealing a couple's money.

At that 2016 sentencing, Camacho expressed concern that there appears to be no meaningful way to provide mental health care to defendants with mental illness and/or disability in the CNMI criminal justice system.

The judge said he is faced with a predicament putting in prison Manglona, a then-38-year-old mentally ill person with the mental age of a 10-year-old boy, without the proper mental health professionals or a hospital that releases a patient with a history of violence.

When Manglona was 14 years old, he reportedly suffered serious head injuries in an auto accident. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Republicans kick off campaign with roadside wave

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

The NMI Republican Party kicked off the campaign season Friday with a roadside waving along Beach Road in San Jose, in an event attended by hundreds of supporters, with the candidates running to be elected present, as well as Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, who came to show their support.

Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero, who is running for a fourth term in office, said that there is still many things that need to be accomplished at the Legislature, given the COVID-19 pandemic. "This pandemic that we're facing, it's causing a real hardship here in the CNMI, with our only industry, tourism, no longer in existence. …We have to figure out and find new money, and hopefully, if I do get reelected and return back to office, we are going to look into every avenue to come up with a solution, and additional revenue that would keep the CNMI government afloat," he said.

The concern was echoed by Torres' chief of staff, Angel Demapan, who is running for a seat for Precinct 1. He said his priority is to work with the leadership and the administration to re-stabilize the CNMI economy.

"The pandemic has hit us hard but it's hit the rest of the world very hard, but I believe that if we have a collaborative and strong leadership, we can resolve our economic challenges and restore economic footing, to make sure that we deliver a better and stronger economy to our people once again," he said.

He said that, in the two years when he was a member of the House of Representatives, 27 of his legislations became laws—which he describes as an unprecedented record. "I'm most proud of that record because that was my demonstration of commitment to the community, that I have the energy and the drive that it takes to have effective leadership in the House."

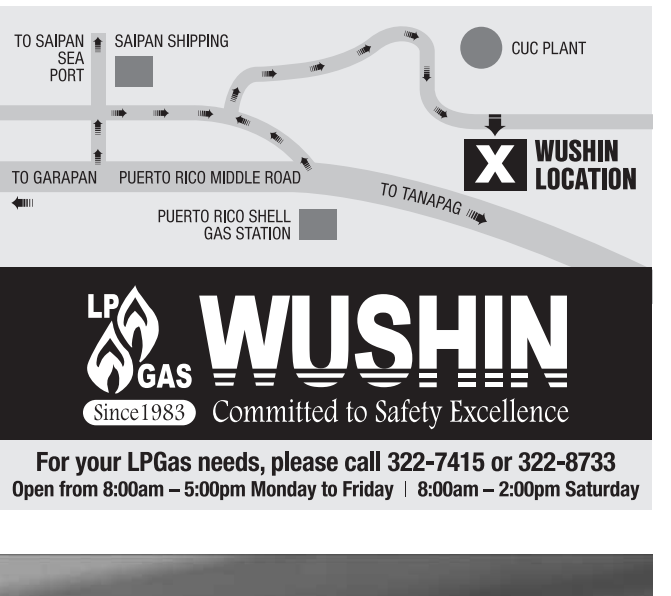
He acknowledged that he has a very important task right now as the chief of staff to the governor, "but my passion to serve my community is there, and I feel that I can do more than deliver more services to the community as a member of the Legislature once again."

Former police officer Cecilia Taitano, who is running for the first time for a seat at the House of Representatives for Precinct 4, alongside Rep. Joel Camacho, is also dedicated to progress, and is focused in bringing more opportunities and privileges to the CNMI community. Taitano is the party's only female candidate.

"We're committed to serving our indigenous people and our CNMI-wide," she said. "One of our biggest platform is community-based projects, going out there, understanding the root issues that people are struggling with, and advancing on to opening windows of opportunities and helping our people in light of the pandemic and our current economic state."

Taitano said her two biggest priorities are finding alternatives to the CNMI's tourism-based economy, and breaking barriers that impede progress, and opening opportunities for people.

The general elections is on Nov. 3, Tuesday.



TIP

From Page 1

day, at 8:15am when the trial of the Ataligs resumes.

Hurst also testified about the trips that the Ataligs made, how much they received in per diems, and the purpose of those trips, among other things.

Before Hurst's testimony, the prosecution called three other witnesses from the Department of Finance.

Atalig

On Friday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona quashed the Ataligs' subpoenas for documents related to OPA investigators Edward Cabrera and Juan Santos. However, Manglona said, the CNMI government shall produce the personnel files and tax returns of Hurst. The judge directed the CNMI government to email these to the clerk's office. She said the documents shall remain under seal, and the CNMI government may not provide them to anyone other than the court.

Manglona said the court shall review the documents in camera (or in private) and determine what, if anything, must be disclosed to defense counsel.

The U.S. government moved to quash defendants' subpoenas.

During Friday's opening statements, assistant U.S. attorney Eric S. O'Malley, counsel for the U.S. government, said Efraim Atalig betrayed the trust of the people of the CNMI by going on a lot of CNMI-funded trips that were primarily personal and not official, that Efraim Atalig and his girlfriend, Evelyn Atalig, made these CNMI-funded trips over and over again.

O'Malley discussed each of the eight trips taken by the couple at different times in 2018 to Guam, Palau, the U.S. mainland, South Korea, and Saipan.

He said Efraim Atalig signed his own travel authorizations and for Evelyn Atalig. O'Malley said evidence will show that the Ataligs either did not attend the conferences or events at all or only attended on the first day.

The prosecutor said the trip to Guam in June 2018 "started it all" as it was when OPA began the investigation.

He said Efraim Atalig signed the travel authorizations for himself and other government employees to travel from Rota to Guam, as well as two TAs for plane charters. The purpose of the trip was ostensibly to go to a U.S. Department of Defense office to look for surplus equipment, O'Malley said, but was actually meant to attend a political rally on June 23, 2018.

Banes

The total amount of payments from the CNMI government in that Guam trip exceeded $10,000, according to the indictment.

The other trips cited were the travel from Rota to San Diego, California to "attend 9th Annual Chamorro Cultural Festival" in March 2018; travel from Rota to Saipan "to promote tourism and to attend the 23rd Micronesia Islands Forum and the Flame Tree Festival" in April 2018; travel from Rota to Palau "to promote tourism in Palau" in May 2018; and travel from Rota to Saipan "to attend the Agriculture Fair in Saipan" in August 2018.

O'Malley said the real purpose of that Saipan trip in August 2018 was really to participate in a partisan campaign activity.

Showing photos of Ataligs and other people wearing yellow political party shirts in his presentation to the jury, O'Malley said the pictures are the most powerful evidence.

Steven P. Pixely, counsel for Evelyn Atalig, said that Evelyn Atalig's nightmare began in 2018, or almost two years ago, when Hurst and Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Haejun Park went to her office on Rota and interrogated her.

Pixley said the prosecution kept describing Evelyn Atalig as Efraim Atalig's girlfriend, when the relationship is more than that—that she is his common-law wife.

Pixley cited other trips when Evelyn Atalig did not get per diems.

The defense counsel said evidence will show that Evelyn is not guilty of all charges.

David G. Banes, counsel for Efraim Atalig, said that Atalig did everything for Rota, that he was always acting sincerely in trying to promote Rota.

Banes showed a photo of the mayor riding a carabao to lead a Rota delegation during a Liberation Day parade in Guam. Banes noted that Efraim Atalig has a health problem and in fact underwent bypass operation in the Philippines. Yet he can be seen in the photo riding a carabao under the hot sun, Banes added.

Banes said Efraim Atalig also helped make the Rota float in that Guam parade and, in fact paid for that trip. He said Efraim Atalig was supposed to be in the dignitary box on the stage in that parade, but he chose to ride the carabao.

He also pointed out that, despite having been indicted already, Efraim Atalig still won his re-election bid in 2018. "The people of Rota have spoken," Banes pointed out.

Banes said Finance has to approve the TAs, which they did.

Banes cited other trips that mayor Atalig did not submit trip reports and paid for himself.

The Ataligs are being charged with conspiracy to commit wire fraud and theft from program receiving federal funds, wire fraud, and theft from program receiving federal funds. Both are also charged separately with false statement.

IPI

From Page 1

license, said IPI general counsel Michael Dotts over the weekend.

Dotts said this in response to *Saipan Tribune*'s request for an update on any development pertaining to IPI's failure to pay the license fee by the deadline and IPI's request for a delay in paying $3 million to fund the operations of the Commonwealth Casino Commission. Dotts said he believes that the CNMI government is working on a response to IPI's request.

He said it has been hinted to him that the government will not be receptive to a reduction in the $15-million annual casino license fee or the $3 million payment that covers CCC's operations because IPI has an exclusive license and the cost of that exclusivity was the payment of the very high annual license fee and the full cost of operating CCC.

If the Legislature decides to allow five casino licenses, Dotts said the fee could go down to $3 million each and that IPI could possibly afford to pay this in the current economic situation.

If there were five casinos, then each one could pay $600,000 to cover the operation of CCC, he added.

"Five casinos might bring in more total players and the benefit for the CNMI would be compounded by the increased business activity of so many more casinos and more casino operations," the lawyer said.

In a letter to CNMI leaders last week, IPI chief executive officer Donald R. Browne said that IPI would not be able to pay the annual license fee by the deadline last Wednesday. Browne also proposed that payment of the $3 million to support the operations of CCC that IPI owes by this October be delayed until 30 days before the scheduled reopening of IPI's casino in Garapan.

Citing the COVID-19 pandemic that grips the world, Browne described what happened as a classic "force majeure," an event that effects more than just IPI and that is beyond IPI's control.

EMERGENCY

From Page 1

to pose a significant and imminent threat of harm to the community, environment and people of the CNMI and thus emergency declarations are necessary to respond, quarantine and ensure the prevention of or containment of COVID-19 in the CNMI," said Torres in his Executive Order 2020-17.

The governor first placed the Commonwealth under the state of emergency on Jan. 29, 2020 which ordered the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to implement quarantine and preventive containment measures, two days before a public health emergency was declared in the United States.

The U.S. currently has 5.35 million confirmed COVID-19 cases, 50 of which is in the CNMI.

At the radio press briefing last Thursday, Torres reminded the community to not be complacent, especially with the increase in the number of cases in the neighboring island of Guam.

"This is a reminder that COVID-19 is very much in our region, very much happening around the world. We can never put down our guards," he said. "We've done an excellent job on making sure that our government, private partners, and community continue to work hand in hand to fight the pandemic together. Please continue to practice social distancing, make sure to wear mask, and just be aware that it's a serious matter."

The governor also called for everyone to continue being vigilant. "I just wanted to remind everyone that no one is immune to it, and that we all need to continue making COVID a priority in our life even as we move forward on the new norm for everybody."

The state of emergency is in effect for 30 days, or until Sept. 15, 2020.

50TH

From Page 1

in the CNMI will have its last day tomorrow, Aug. 18, 2020, until further notice.

These developments come soon after Guam is placed again under lockdown for the next two weeks.

Due to an increase in the number of new positive cases in Guam, Gov. Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero reinstated the Pandemic Condition of Readiness Level 1, or PCOR 1, in Guam—the highest level of restrictions in a four-step alert level. It will cover two weeks, from Aug. 16, 2020, until Aug. 29, 2020.

To date, there have been a total of 516 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Guam, with five deaths, 345 released from isolation, and 166 active cases. Leon Guerrero and Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio themselves have been confirmed positive for COVID-19.

As opposed to many of the newest cases, the CNMI's latest case was identified through a mandatory pre-operation screening for a scheduled surgery at the Commonwealth Health Center and was not identified through the Community-Based Testing initiative nor travel screening.

This comes nearly two months since the CNMI saw its first community transmission last June 3. Contact tracing for the most immediate contacts of the new confirmed case has already been initiated. The individual has been moved to the designated isolation area for close monitoring.

This case brings the CNMI to a total of 10 community screening transmissions.

Of the total 50 confirmed cases, 25 cases have been identified through port-of-entry screening procedures, 15 from known contacts, and now 10 through community screening, added the statement.

Of the 25 cases identified through port-of-entry, 20 cases originated from the U.S. mainland, two from a U.S. territory, and three from a foreign country.

Mass testing

After tomorrow, community-based testing will be suspended until further notice.

According to the explanation provided by an Office of the Governor statement, the Solgent team from South Korea that is helping CHCC with the testing will be returning home on Aug. 20, 2020, and will no longer be assisting in running the laboratory specimens for CBT. The team has been helping the CNMI with mass tests in the last 90 days.

Since April 28, 2020, the CNMI Community-Based Testing Initiative has tested 12,681 people for COVID-19 on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. This is approximately 24% of the CNMI's population.

Based on CHCC's count, a total of 12,681 persons were tested in the CNMI. In Guam, the total number of persons tested is now at 27,239.

Community transmission

Esther Muña, CHCC chief executive officer, says that investigation is still ongoing as to where the latest case of community transmission in the CNMI started.

Rumor is rife that CHC personnel that ran the test wrongfully misread the individual's test and it was only after the surgery that the patient was confirmed positive. The rumor also states that the doctors and staff involved in the surgery are now in quarantine and that CHCC is investigating.

Muña confirmed that the individual underwent surgery but, when asked about rumors that the individual's test had been misread, she said that she can't release anything yet until the investigation is done.

"We have every intent to release what happened but [we can't] when investigations are ongoing. When we have all the details of what happened, we will release," she said.

MANGLONA

From Page 2

Rico. Playing the role of Anita in *West Side Story* made Moreno the first Latina to receive an Oscar.

Three women from Guam are on the Women of the Century list: human rights activist Beatrice Flores Emsley, politician Cecilia Cruz Bamba, and educator and civil rights activist Agueda Iglesias Johnston.

Others on the list are poet Julia de Burgos Garcia of Puerto Rico, feminist author Barbara Christian from the U.S. Virgin Islands, humanitarian Isolina Ferre Aguayo from Puerto Rico, politician Tulsi Gabbard from American Samoa, nurse and midwife Myrah Keating-Smith from the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa Medicaid director Sandra King-Young, Puerto Rico Olympic tennis gold medalist Monica Puig Marchan, former U.S. surgeon general from Puerto Rico Anonia Novello, reggaeton artist Ivy Queen from Puerto Rico, lawyer and politician Ana Irma Rivera Lassen from Puerto Rico, Sen. Ruby Rouss from the U.S. Virgin Islands, executive director of the Center for Investigative Journalism Carla Minet Santos Santiago from Puerto Rico, professor Carolina Sinavaiana Gabbard from American Samoa, and Nilita Vientos Gaston, the first female lawyer to work for the Puerto Rico Department of Justice.

Child saved from near-drowning at Sugar Dock

A fisherman saved a child from a near-drowning at Sugar Dock in Susupe last Thursday, Aug. 13.

According to a CNMI Department of Public Safety statement, DPS received a 911 call last Thursday at about 5:12pm about an unresponsive child at Sugar Dock. DPS Boating Safety and medics from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services were dispatched to the scene.

Witnesses in the area stated that they saw a child floating on their back with their head submerged underwater. A nearby fisherman jumped into the water, pulled the child to shore and laid them on the sand, and began conducting chest compressions. Witnesses told police that, as chest compressions were being performed, the child coughed out water and continued to do so as they were placed on their side. After about five minutes, the child finally took a breath of air. At this time, medics arrived on scene and brought the child to the Commonwealth Health Center where they were admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for observation. ***(PR)***

JKPL expands virtual programming

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is excited to announce free public access to EBSCOhost, which is one of the nation's leading research databases, for the entire CNMI community.

JKPL will be providing the following EBSCOhost databases for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota:

- Explora (Elementary School Databases);
- Explora (Middle and High School Databases);
- Consumer Health Complete, Novelist, Novelist K-8; and
- Small Business Reference Center

A JKPL card, Tinian Public Library card, or Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Public Library (Rota) card is required to access EBSCOhost. You can access EBSCOhost from a Web browser on your computer by visiting the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library website at www.cnmilib.org and clicking on the EBSCOhost icon from the main page.

Library cards are free for the public, call the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library at (670) 235- 7322/7323 to learn how you can sign up for a free library card today. For families on Rota and Tinian who would like to sign up for free EBSCOhost access, contact your respective public library—Tinian Public Library at 433-0504 or Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library (Rota) at 532-7329 to learn how to apply for your library card.

EBSCO is the leading discovery service provider for libraries worldwide with more than 11,000 discovery customers in over 100 countries.

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EBSCO is the leading provider of electronic journals and books for libraries, with subscription management for more than 360,000 serials, including more than 57,000 e-journals, as well as online access to more than 1,000,000 e-books. ***(PR)***

Military trainings set

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct live fire exercises in Warning Area 13 and Farallon de Medinilla on Aug. 17-21 from 8am to 5:30pm. Marine vessels are advised to remain clear 12 nautical miles around

Farallon de Medinilla for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will conduct live fire exercises in open ocean on Aug. 17-20, from 1pm to 11:55pm at the following coordinates: 13°26"N/145°08"E, 13°42"N/144°36"E. Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of the area for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in the vicinity of Agat Bay and Outer Apra Harbor on the following dates and times:

- Aug. 17 and 20, from 1pm to 11:55pm
- Aug. 18-19, from 1pm to 12:30am

Simulated ammunition will be used in this training. The public should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity and are requested to remain clear of units in the area for the duration of this event.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Dandan-Malojloj and Radio Barrigada on Aug. 17, from 1pm to 11:55pm. Residents of surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity due to the training.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Dandan-Malojloj and Radio Barrigada on Aug. 18 from 1pm to 11:55pm. Simulated ammunition will be used in this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity.

The U.S. Navy will conduct live fire training at Naval Magazine on Aug. 18, from 9am to 3pm. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity due to the training.

The U.S. Army will conduct training in Radio Barrigada on the following dates and times:

- Aug. 19-20, from 8am to 5pm
- Aug. 21-23, from 8am to 10am

Blank ammunition will be used in this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity.

The U.S. Coast Guard will conduct live fire exercises on Aug. 19 in Warning Area 517, from 10am to 4pm. Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of Warning Area 517 for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

These trainings support readiness and are critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific. ***(PR)***

NAVFAC awards $48.5M contract for Guam services

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific awarded a $48.5 million cost-plus-award-fee contract on Aug. 12 to DZSP 21, LLC of Marlton, New Jersey, for base operating support services at Joint Region Marianas.

"The award of the next BOS contract is a remarkable milestone for the Department of Defense here on Guam," said NAVFAC Marianas commanding officer Capt. Tim Liberatore. "The BOS contractor is an integral partner for facility maintenance and operational support across Joint Region Marianas' installations. This contract will allow the U.S. military to maintain our forward presence in this key strategic location and enhance our ability to deter aggression, maintain stability, and ensure free and open access to common domains for the U.S. and its Allies and Partners. I am looking forward to continuing our partnership with DZSP 21 LLC."

The work to be performed provides for facility and BOS for the following services: management and administration, port operations, facilities management, facilities investment, utilities management, electrical, wastewater, steam, water and demineralized water and base support vehicles and equipment.

Work will be performed at various locations on the island of Guam, with an expected completion date of April 2028. ***(USN)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (DPL)
Tel.: (670) 234-3751 • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp • Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE EXTENSION OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot 090 D 01 containing an area of approximately 3,000 square meters, more or less, situated in Gualo Rai, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands and website www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is D & W Saipan, Inc. The list of officers for D & W Saipan Inc., are Hyeon Kyu Lee, as President/Director, Ei Sook Kim Lee, as Vice-President/Director, and Sung Soo Lim, as Secretary/Director.

iii. The proposed Extension Agreement and Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement is compliant with DPL regulations and was negotiated by the officers and directors of D & W Saipan, Inc., mainly Hyeon Kyu Lee and Sung Soo Lim.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of sales and services of general automotive products, including but not limited to fuel products auto inspection, office, and warehouse space necessary to conduct business and other related purposes.

The term of the proposed lease extension agreement is 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term of the lease agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property plus the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.

v. A copy of the proposed Extension Agreement and Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before August 21, 2020 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIA PUT I MAPROPONI NA INEKSTENDIN ATKILON TANU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lai Pupliku 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku ha nå'i nutisia guini put i intension-ña ni para u na ma'atkila palu na tanu' pupbliku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas Siha. I manintiresåo na petsona siha gi halum pupbliku henerål siña muna'na'halum upiñon, imfotmasion, pat testimoñiun kinentra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atkilon tanu' pupbliku. Kumu mås mo'na mapribeniyi ni Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i sigienti na pettanesi na imfotmasion ni madimånda ni para u mapupblika.

i. I maproponi na atkilon tanu' pupbliku madiskribi komu Lot 090 D 01 ni ha kunsisisti i åria gi kåsi guaha 3,000 square meters, mås pat menus, ni gaigi gi Gualo Rai, iya Saipan. I kopian i pumalu managuaha gi Dipåttamentun Tanu' Pupbliku yan gi website www.dpl.gov.mp para rinikonosimientu.

ii. The prospective lessee i D & W Saipan, Inc. I listan ufisiåt siha para D & W Saipan Inc., si Hyeon Kyu Lee, komu Presidenti/Direktot, si Ei Sook Kim Lee, komu Sigundu Presidenti/Direktot, yan si Sung Soo Lim, komu Sekritåriu/Direktot.

iii. I maproponi na Kuntråtan Inekstendin yan Sigundu na Amenda para i Kuntråtan Atkilon ha tåttitiyi i regulasión DPL yan manigosiu ni ufisiåt yan direktot nu i D & W Saipan, Inc., mayotmenti si Hyeon Kyu Lee yan si Sung Soo Lim.

iv. I lessee debi na u usa i lugåt para atyu ha' na rason nu mambendi yan nu "general automotive products," ingklusu låo ti chi'ña para "fuel products auto inspection," ufisina, o sino "warehouse space" nisisåriu para u makundukta i bisnis yan ottru manasosiåt na rason.

I tema nu i maproponi na kuntråtan atkilon inekstendi sa kinsi (15) åñus na tiempu.

I maproponi na atkilu gi kada' såkkan gi durånti i teman i kontråtan atkilon mapega gi pusientus nu i bålin "appraised fair market" i propiedåt yan i propiu na pusentun i Risibun Hina'halum Bisnis gi halum regulasion i DPL.

v. I kopian i maproponi na Kuntråtan Inekstendi yan i Sigundu na Amenda para i Kuntråtan Atkilon siña machuli' gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu' Pupbliku, ni gaigi gi Sigundu (2nd) na bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building iya Dandan, Saipan, gi primet (1st) na bibiendan i De'Ana Commercial Building, iya Songsong na sengsong, Luta; pat gi primet (1st) na bibiendan i King's Commercial Building, giya Tini'an. I kopia managuaha lokkui' gi online gi www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. I Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku tåya' ha risibi tinahguin propositu siha para u ma'atkila masuhetu na tanu' pupbliku gi Gualo Rai, Saipan.

vii. I Sekritåriun Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku debi na u aksepta tinigi' upiñon, imfotmasion, testimoniun kinentra pat tinahguin priniponi ginin i manintirisåo na pattida siha gi pat åntis di Agosto 21, 2020 gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, Luta pat Tinian.

ARONGORONG REEL SÓBWEEYTÁL POMMWOL ATKKILÓÓNOL FALUWEER TOULAP

Llól abwungubwungúl fengál me Tálil 106 (b) reel Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer toulap isiis arongorong reel aar itittiw ngáli atkkilóónol ákkááw faluweer toulap llól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw kka Efáng llól Marianas. Aramasal toulap ikka re tipáli rebwe isiisilong ischil mángemáng, data, views, ngáre angiingi reel pommw ikka ra siiweli ngáli atkkilóónol faluweer toulap. Alléghúl Toulap 15-2 ebwal ayoorai, arongorong ikka e amwirimwiritiw e ffil ebwe bwal akkatééwow.

i. Pommwol atkkilóónol faluweer toulap iye re óleghi igha nge Lot 090 D 01 iye e bwáá bwe 3,000 square meters, elapeló ngáre eghus, e lo Gualo Rai, Seipél. Pappidil bwuléy eyoor me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me bwal wóól website www.dpl.gov.mp reel ubwe amwuri.

ii. Prospective lessee nge D & W Saipan, Inc. List-al officers ngáli D & W Saipan Inc., nge Hyeon Kyu Lee, bwe President/Director, Ei Sook Kim Lee, bwe Vice-President/Director, me Sung Soo Lim, bwe Sekkretóóriyo/Director.

iii. Pommwol Abwungubwung iye e Láálááyló me Aruwooowal Liiwel ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón nge e tipifool fengál me mwóghutughutúl DPL me e ppwolsángi officers me directors-il D & W Saipan, Inc., spesiatemente Hyeon Kyu Lee me Sung Soo Lim.

iv. Schóól atkkilóón ebwe yááyá bwuléy ngáli akkaméélól me angaangil "general automotive products", e bwal schuulong nge ese mwutch ngáli "fuel products auto inspection", bwulasiyo, me "warehouse space" iye e ffil ngáli rebwe ffééru mwóghutughutúl "business" me ákkááw mwóghut ikka e toolong.

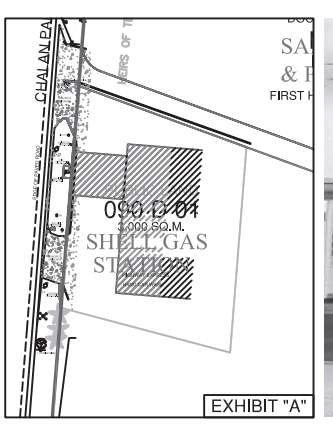
Pommwol abwungubwungúl láálááyil atkkilóón nge seigh me limoow ráágh.

pommwol atkkilóónol ghal ráágh nge e lo reel "percentage" sángi "appraised fair market value" reel falúw ebwal schuulong "applicable percentage" reel "Business gross Receipts" llól mwóghutughutúl DPL.

v. Pappidil pommwol Láálááyil Abwungubwung me Aruwoowal Liiwel ngáli Pommwol Atkkilóón emmwelil ubwe bweibwogh me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building me Dandan, Seipél; 1st floor reel De'Ana Commercial Building, Sóóbwol Songsong, Luuta; ngáre 1st floor reel Kings Commercial Building, Tchiliyól. Ebwal yoor pappidil mille online me www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh pommwol siiwel ngáli faluweer toulap iye rebwe atkkilaay me Gualo Rai, Seipél.

vii. Sekkretóóriyal Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap re bweibwogh ischil mángemáng, views, angiingi ngáre pommwol siiwel sángi schóó kka re mwuschel isiisilong wóól ngáre mmwalil Elúwel 21, 2020 me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye e Seipél, Luuta, ngáre Tchiliyól.



Office on Aging gets $300K to help *man'amko* find jobs

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Office on Aging Senior Community Service Employment Program was recently awarded over $300,000, which will be used to assist citizens over the age of 55 to seek and obtain employment.

A total of over $300,000 was awarded to the Office on Aging through the US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. The SCSEP, also known as the Title V program, was created to help elderly individuals seek and obtain unsubsidized job employment within the community. Authorized by the Older Americans Act, the program provides training for low-income, unemployed seniors. The maximum durational limit for each participant is 48 months.

Training sites work closely with the Office on Aging to assist each SCSEP participant in his or her personal development. This includes meeting with SCSEP staff at the site, or in a meeting, to be assessed and/or to develop an Individual Employment Plan. SCSEP participants will then be assigned to a temporary training position designed to prepare them for unsubsidized employment.

Office on Aging director Walter A. Manglona said SCSEP participants gain work experience in a variety of community service activities at non-profit and governmental agencies, including schools, hospitals, and senior centers.

"Participants work an average of 20 hours a week, and are paid the federal minimum wage. This training serves as a bridge to unsubsidized employment opportunities for participants. Our office continues to provide a safe and sanitary training environment and training conditions, and continues to give all participants any necessary safety instructions during this COVID-19 global Pandemic," said Mangloña. "Our main focus right now is to identify potential job placements for our participants and help them land a permanent job. Seniors residing in the CNMI over the age of 55, who are low-income or unemployed, can pick up an application at the Office on Aging in China Town, Saipan, Sinapalo on Rota, or San Jose on Tinian."

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios thank the U.S. Department of Labor for awarding the CNMI with this funding to provide opportunities for our elderly citizens in the workforce.

"We are extremely grateful to our federal partners at the U.S. Department of Labor for allowing us the opportunity to receive this grant funding which will go a long way to assist our man'amko in the Marianas. This gives them an opportunity to stay active and healthy while earning additional income for their families. We would like to thank director Manglona and all the staff at the Office on Aging for their continued commitment to serving our most beloved members of our community," said Torres.

Participants must be at least 55, unemployed, and have a family income of no more than 125% of the federal poverty level. Enrollment priority is given to veterans and qualified spouses, then to individuals who are over 65, have a disability, have low literacy skills or limited English proficiency, reside in a rural area, are homeless or at risk of homelessness, have low employment prospects, or have failed to find employment after using services through WIOA.

For more information, contact the DCCA Office on Aging at (670) 233-1321. ***(PR)***

Man arrested for alleged burglary and theft

On Wednesday, July 29, 2020, at about 8:57am, the CNMI Department of Public Safety received a call reporting a theft incident from the Villaroyal Pawnshop in San Jose, Saipan. Police were dispatched to the area.

At about 9:03am, police arrived at the pawnshop and met with a female individual who stated that she was the caller. Police met with the victim and her husband inside the pawnshop where the victim stated that she had found their wedding bands that she thought went missing last year.

On July 30, 2020, Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdon issued a search warrant for the pawnshop, where authorities seized documents related to the sale transaction and recovery of the two rings belonging to the victims. Pawnshop employees confirmed that Neil Camacho came into the pawnshop to pawn the rings last October.

On Aug. 11, 2020, police interviewed Camacho, who allegedly admitted to stealing the two wedding rings and pawning it at the Villaroyal Pawnshop in October 2019. Camacho was arrested shortly after for the charge of theft and was brought to the Department of Corrections where he was booked and detained. On Aug. 12, 2020, at about 2:15pm, Camacho was served a Rule 5 where he awaits arraignment. ***(PR)***

Interior names new Guam field rep, other staff positions

The position of Guam field representative for the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs—which has been vacant for so long—has now been filled.

Dong Hun Choe, who was born and raised in Guam and is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, is the new Guam field representative, according to a U.S. Department of the Interior announcement last Friday.

"The field representative, representing OIA, has an important responsibility to help liaise between the government of Guam and other federal partners on issues of importance to both the federal government and Guam," said Interior Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Douglas W. Domenech. "We look forward to strengthening our working relations with the government and the people of Guam."

The Guam field representative position has been vacant for nearly a decade.

Choe has over 10 years of experience working in the government of Guam, both in the executive and legislative branches, as well as with the Guam Economic Development Authority. Choe is involved in many civic organizations in Guam. Choe was competitively selected through the federal government's hiring process.

The Office of Insular Affairs operates from DOI's headquarters in Washington, D.C., and maintains a regional office in Honolulu, Hawaii. In addition, OIA currently maintains offices in American Samoa, in the CNMI, in the Federated States of Micronesia, and in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Within the past year, OIA has also hired the following professional staff in Washington, DC:

■ Melissa Braybrooks has been hired as an economist and splits her time between the Office of Insular Affairs and Interior's Office of Policy, Management, and Budget. Braybrooks comes to Interior from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis.

■ Kelsey Marand is a new full-time OIA employee who serves as a budget analyst in the Office of Insular Affairs' Budget Division. Marand holds a law degree and is a member of the Virginia Army National Guard.

■ Howard Hills is serving on temporary assignment as a special adviser in the Office of Insular Affairs, providing staff support for U.S. government discussions with the freely associated states on the renewal of expiring provisions of the Compacts of Free Association. As a Navy JAG (lieutenant commander), Hills served previously as legal adviser for the Micronesian Status Negotiations and as lead counsel for the U.S. during final negotiations of the first Compact of Free Association agreements signed in 1986. ***(PR)***

Paula Bermudes-Castro is appointed Kilili's congressional district director

Long-time congressional office manager Paula Bermudes-Castro has been promoted to the position of district director.

Bermudes fills the position left vacant by the recent passing of Peter Michael Tenorio, who served Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) as district director since January 2009.

The district director is responsible for a staff of seven and the congressional offices on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. She coordinates the work of all three offices responding to inquiries and requests for assistance, helps Sablan in his meetings with constituents, and represents the delegate in the Marianas, when he is at work in Washington, D.C.

In announcing the decision to promote from within to fill the important post of district director, Sablan's chief of staff, Bob Schwalbach, noted Bermudes' long experience managing district office operations and that she had been acting district director during Tenorio's illness.

"We look forward to a smooth transition," he said. "[Delegate] Sablan's constituents will continue to receive the high level of attention and support they have come to expect from their congressional office." ***(PR)***

UOG delays start of semester to Aug. 26

The University of Guam will delay the start of classes to Wednesday, Aug. 26, in light of the island's return to Pandemic Condition of Readiness 1, or PCOR1, Guam's highest alert level. Classes were previously scheduled to start last Wednesday. Additionally, all classes will be held online to begin the semester.

Registration for classes for admitted students will take place from Aug. 17 to an extended date of Aug. 25, and senior citizen registration will take place on Sept. 2. The tuition payment deadline has been extended to Sept. 3.

During PCOR1, the UOG campus will be closed to the public but will remain open and will operate in a limited capacity. Non-essential in-person customer service functions will be suspended. ***(UOG)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)
NMHC IFB 2020-009

BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: September 3, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Building Maintenance Services for NMHC's Housing Units in Saipan

Project package will be available on August 03, 2020, at the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net by clicking on the "Procurement Tab".

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held via video teleconferencing on August 19, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Bidders will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net. We request from bidders to submit a notice via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net of their intent to participate in the mandatory pre-bid conference at least one (1) day before the conference. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30a.m. – 4:30p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/
Vinney Atalig - Hocog
Chairman, NMHC Board of Directors

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)
NMHC RFP 2020-010

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: September 3, 2020, 11:00 a.m.

ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES

Project package will be available on August 03, 2020, at the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net by clicking on the "Procurement" tab.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Proposal conference will be held via video teleconferencing on August 19, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Proposers will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net "Procurement" tab. We request from bidders to submit a notice via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net of their intent to participate in the mandatory pre-bid conference at least one (1) day before the conference. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-proposal conference will be considered a non-responsive proposer.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30a.m. – 4:30p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/
Vinney Atalig - Hocog
Chairman, NMHC Board of Directors

Dental Solutions

Looking for (1) employee to work as Insurance Claims Clerk Temporary, Full-time (renewal)

- Must have (12) months experience in dental claims processing
- Must have knowledge and experience processing dental insurance claims both electronically and on paper.
- Must have knowledge in dental procedures, dental terminology and be familiar in ADA Codes.
- Atleast with associates degree in business administration.

Applicants may submit his/her CV to mikehalldds@hotmail.com and also applicants may submit his/her resume during working hours from Tuesday to Saturday from 8:30 AM to 5:30PM at the office location in Microbeach Rd., Garapan Saipan Northern Mariana Island. Applicants may also contact Dr. Michael Hall at telephone number 1 (670) 483-4868 or 1 (670) 233-3300 from Tuesday to Saturday from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM.

Seabees kick off Tinian road repair project

TINIAN—Rear Adm. John Menoni, commander of Joint Region Marianas, Capt. Eric Correll, commodore of Commander Task Force 75, and CNMI and Tinian government and civilian leaders joined U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3's Detail Tinian for a ground-breaking ceremony last Aug. 10 to kick off infrastructure improvement projects on the island.

Menoni and Correll arrived ahead of the ceremony to visit multiple construction projects and sites around the island. They also visited Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan to discuss the specifics of projects slated for construction on the island.

Tinian is going through a rebuilding process just two years after the devastating effects of Super Typhoon Yutu. The construction expertise the Seabees provide has proven essential to helping get the people of Tinian back on their feet.

"I am very proud to say that the Seabees are coming back to the [CNMI]," said Menoni. Their deployment to Tinian "demonstrates the Department of Defense's commitment to regional security, being good neighbors and cultivating our already strong relationship with the people of Tinian. The Seabees are excited to work side-by-side with local civilian and government partners to do great things for Tinian. We're not only talking about increased port and transportation capacity; we are talking about positive economic impact that results from these military activities."

The DoD is working to provide assistance to the citizens of Tinian while fostering a lasting relationship with leaders and the community. Seabees have begun the ground work to move this process forward by beginning construction on Camp Tinian, which will provide berthing and life support facilities to support joint training operations on the island. Whether the Navy, Army, Air Force or Marine Corps operates on the island, the construction efforts of the Seabees from NMCB-3 will enable their success.

The current scope of work is estimated to employ Seabees on Tinian through next year. The Seabees deployed to Tinian will rotate along with their respective NMCBs, meaning multiple battalions will conduct work on Tinian during the course of the project. Future projects will be identified through continued partnership and dialogue between Tinian and DoD officials.

While addressing the crowd for the groundbreaking ceremony, Aldan said the projects will be a "catalyst for jumpstarting Tinian's economy while also providing job opportunities."

As the DoD, Seabees, and Tinian community continue to push forward to aid in the island's revitalization, Menoni reflected on the history of the Seabees on Tinian as well as the progress that has been made thus far and the outlook for the future.

"I'm really pleased with what I saw here today," said Menoni. "It's amazing to see what Seabees can accomplish when given the tools, the time, the resources, and the training to get after a project. It's also very impressive to see the young men and women making a positive impact not just locally for the community, but at a strategic level as we work through a great power competition toward an end goal of a free and open Indo-Pacific. I'm super happy with what I saw, and I look forward to coming back and seeing them again."

Throughout their history, the Seabees have provided relief around the world to sustain not only the U.S. Navy's mission but to provide help for those who need it most. The construction projects on Tinian range from construction of a camp to support joint military operations, underwater construction training, to road and infrastructure improvement, and add to the historical humanitarian efforts made by the Seabees.

In respect to the current and future support from the Seabees on Tinian, CNMI Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios said, "In times of peace, Seabees played a significant role in humanitarian efforts. This [project] will improve the lives of people who live in Marpo Heights and Tinian residents in general."

Correll also believes that the work he has seen during his most recent visit continues to contribute to the DoD's mission. "It was great coming back here," said Correll. "I've been here many times to see different Seabee units out here doing work, and I will tell you, as I see the camp being built here on Tinian to be able to support future projects, it's good to see the Seabees repeat history as being part of the community on the island here again."

NMCB-3 is deployed across the Indo-Pacific region conducting high-quality construction to support U.S. and partner nations to strengthen partnerships, deter aggression, and enable expeditionary logistics and naval power projection. The battalion stands ready to complete assigned tasking, support Humanitarian Aid/Disaster Relief and Major Combat Operations throughout the area of responsibility. ***(Marcus Henley)***

Rear Adm. John Menoni, commander of Joint Region Marianas, Lt. j.g. Aaron Ignacio, officer-in-charge of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3's Detail Tinian, and CNMI and Tinian government leaders break ground during a ceremony in Marpo Heights for a road repair improvement project.
U.S. NAVY/MARCUS HENLEY

Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan addresses a crowd of CNMI and Tinian government officials and residents and U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3's Detail Tinian Seabees during a groundbreaking ceremony in Marpo Heights for a road repair improvement project.
U.S. NAVY/MARCUS HENLEY

Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan; Rear Adm. John Menoni, commander of Joint Region Marianas; Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios; and Sen. Jude Hofschneider, chairman of the 21st Tinian Legislative Delegation, pose for a photo following a groundbreaking ceremony in Marpo Heights for a Department of Defense road repair improvement project.
U.S. NAVY/MARCUS HENLEY

Scheduled water outage in Kagman on Aug. 20

There will be a scheduled water service interruption for the entire Kagman area on Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020, from 8am to 4pm.

This will allow the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s contractor, Hong Ye Construction, to perform system improvements by cutting, capping and re-aligning the existing 6-inch PVC pipes located on the corner of Chacha Road in Kagman for a more reliable water system. This work is part of CUC's Kagman Waterline and Booster Rehabilitation Replacement Project funded by U.S. Environment Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of the Interior.

For more information, contact the CUC hotline (236-4333) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

Vivian Tenorio Sablan
P.O. Box 500491
Saipan, MP 96950

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF AS GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE OF: J.V.S.W. And T.M.S.W. By Vivian Tenorio Sablan
FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 20-0205
NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a petition for Appointment of Guardian for the estate of the above-named minor children by Vivian Tenorio Sablan, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Superior Court before the Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio on the 14th day of September, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. or as soon as thereafter.

By: /s/ Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

JOE HILL, Esq
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-7743/6806
Fax: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner
Thitiporn P. Kubota

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: BENEDICTO U. IGISAIAR, Deceased.
Civil Action No. 20-0251-CV
NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE BENEDICTO U. IGISAIAR OR OF HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Thitiporn P. Kubota, has filed with the Clerk of this Court a Petition for Letters of Administration for the estate of Benedicto U. Igisaiar, deceased. The attorney of record is Joe Hill of Joe Hill Law Offices, P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950.

The said Petition is set for a hearing on September 17, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., before the Superior Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at the said scheduled hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or the Estate of Benedicto U. Igisaiar, or his estate, are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice, or the claim(s) will be forever barred.

A copy of your claim(s) should also be sent to the attorney for petitioner Thitiporn P. Kubota, **Joe Hill, Hill Law Offices**, whose address is **Tokcha Avenue at Lulai Wy, Susupe, Saipan, P.O. Box 500917, MP 96950**.

Dated this 10th day of August, 2020.
/s/ Clerk of court, Superior Court

KIMBERLYN K. KING-HINDS (F0495)
LAW OFFICE OF KIMBERLYN K. KING-HINDS
P.O. Box 520064, San Jose Village
Tinian, MP 96952
Tel. No.: 670-484-1117
Email Address: kkinghinds@gmail.com

Attorney for Petitioner
Jonathan Agulto Leon Guerrero

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VICENTE P. LEON GUERRERO, Deceased.
CIVIL ACTION NO. 20-0240
NOTICE OF HEARING ON VERIFIED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR
Judge: Joseph N. Camacho
Date: September 3, 2020
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Court: Supreme Court

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner Jonathan Agulto Leon Guerrero, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the **Estate of Vicente P. Leon Guerrero, Decedent. The attorney of record is Kimberlyn Kay King-Hinds, Law Office of Kimberlyn Kay King-Hinds, whose address is P.O. Box 64, Tinian, MP 96952**. The petition is set for hearing at 10:00 a.m. on September 4, 2020 at the Commonwealth Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
Dated this 14th day of August, 2020.

____/s/_____
Kimberlyn K. King-Hinds F0495
Attorney for Petitioner

KIMBERLYN K. KING-HINDS (F0495)
LAW OFFICE OF KIMBERLYN K. KING-HINDS
P.O. Box 520064, San Jose Village
Tinian, MP 96952
Tel. No.: 670-484-1117
Email Address: kkinghinds@gmail.com

Attorney for Petitioner
Emiliana Atalig Bugarin

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EILEEN ATALIG PALACIOS, Deceased.
CIVIL ACTION NO. 20-0241
NOTICE OF HEARING ON VERIFIED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR
Judge: Joseph N. Camacho
Date: September 3, 2020
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Court: Supreme Court

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE EILEEN ATALIG PALACIOS OR HER ESTATE:
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner Emiliana Atalig Bugarin, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Eileen Atalig Palacios. The attorney for Petition is Kimberlyn Kay King-Hinds, Law Office of Kimberlyn Kay King-Hinds, whose address is P.O. Box 64, Tinian, MP 96952. The petition is set for hearing at 10:00 a.m. on September 4, 2020 at the Commonwealth Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
Dated this 14th day of August, 2020.

____/s/_____
Kimberlyn K. King-Hinds F0495
Attorney for Petitioner

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

75 years after the end of WWII, much has changed—and much hasn't

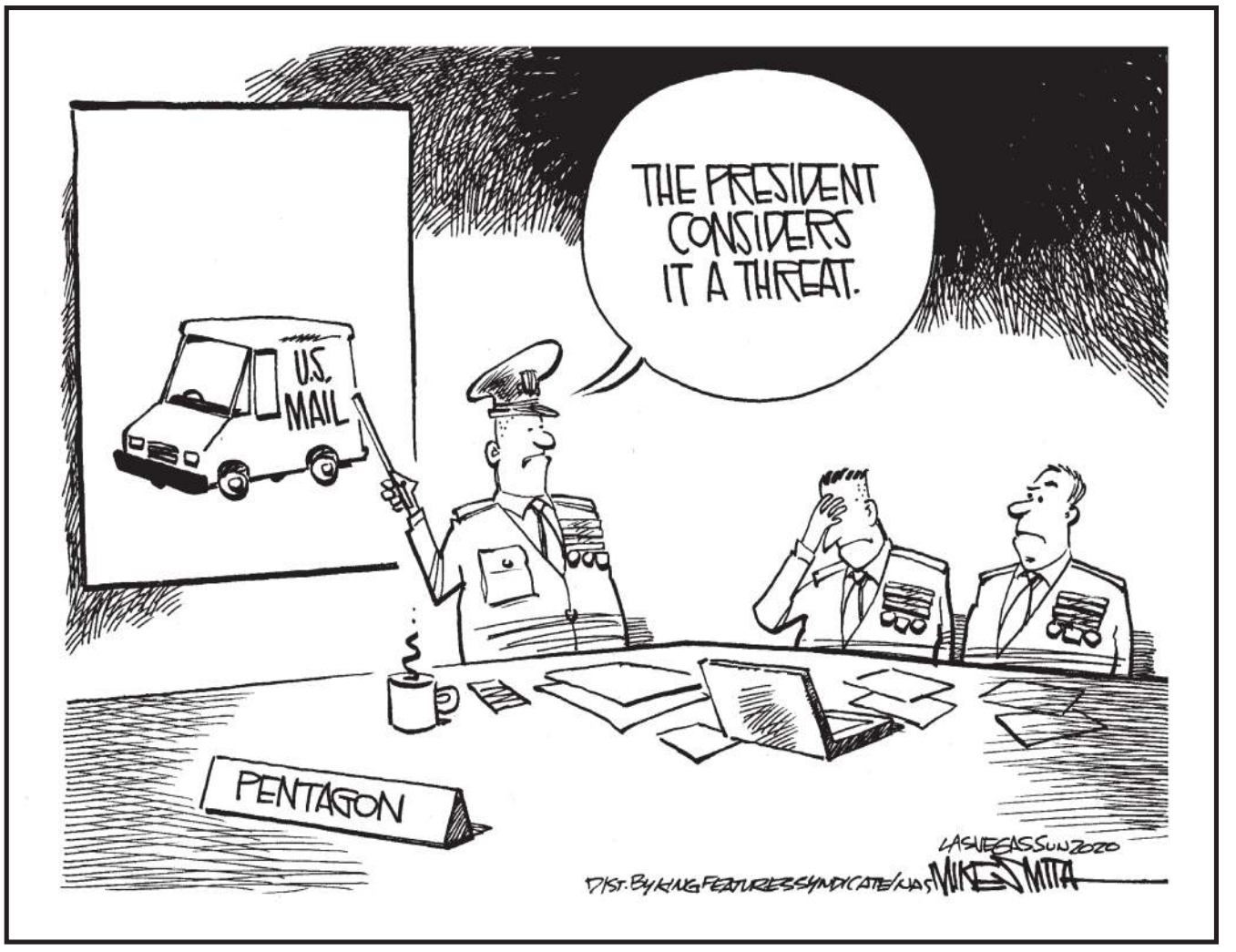
Seventy-five years ago, President Harry S. Truman addressed reporters gathered in the Oval Office of the White House: "I have received this afternoon a message from the Japanese Government," he began, in announcing that country's wartime surrender. Japan's admission of defeat effectively ended World War II, and the relentless, state-sponsored murder of 6 million European Jews and others by the German Nazi regime, in pursuit of Adolf Hitler's evil idea of Aryan supremacy.

The following day, on Aug. 15, 1945, millions of Americans—military members and average citizens—spilled onto streets in cities and towns across the United States in a bittersweet celebration, marking the end of a terrifying period in world history. Yet, while they rightfully cheered the demise of the Nazi empire, millions of Black Americans were living in segregated conditions, marginalized by local and state Jim Crow laws meant to rob them of their rights to vote, get an education, hold down a job and simply pursue happiness, as we all were promised in the Declaration of Independence.

After Japan's surrender, The Sun's editorial board wrote in praise of the country's leaders, military personnel and efforts at international cooperation. But it included, to the board's shame, a claim that the world was now purged "of the obscenity of glorified race hatred and of sadistic debauchery." It was an appallingly ignorant assessment, both regarding the daily bigotry many Jewish Americans still faced, and the country's ongoing, disgraceful treatment of Black Americans—more than 1 million of whom were at the time serving in segregated units of the U.S. Armed Forces. It would be three more years before President Truman would sign an executive order desegregating the military; nine more years before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Brown v. Board of Education that segregation is unconstitutional; and 19 more years until the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into law, outlawing racial discrimination in the workplace, at the voting polls and in public facilities.

Today, 75 years later, we still grapple with prejudice of many kinds: against a person's religion, sexual orientation, gender, political party, economic status, education level and, most notably, skin color. We are far from hatred-free and are often at war with ourselves. Yet we again have what appears to be a "magnificent generation," as The Sun's editorial board called the young people of 1945, on the rise. Today's young adults and their supporters are also taking to the streets—but to decry racism, police brutality, environmental abuses and inequities of all stripes. May they lead us to a place where The Sun's words of Aug. 15, 1945, which

See 75 on Next Page



The unbelievable, totally believable return of Bill O'Reilly

If we women weren't already so jaded about the way powerful men are excused for their bad behavior, this might seem totally unbelievable.

Bill O'Reilly, the former Fox News host who was accused by multiple women of sexual harassment and ultimately reached legal settlements with at least six worth a total of $45 million, is reportedly in talks to get a new radio show at 77 WABC.

His attorney told one news outlet, "We are in the final stages of a contract and a program should be on in the fall." How nice for him.

It gets worse. The station's owner is billionaire John Catsimatidis, a longtime supporter of another credibly accused serial sexual harasser, President Donald Trump.

There's more.

Back in 2016, a longtime Fox colleague of O'Reilly's was essentially forced out of her job at Fox after accusing him of sexual harassment. Her settlement required her silence, as do most, but reports allege that O'Reilly called Juliet Huddy while masturbating, and then retaliated against her professionally when she rejected his sexual advances.

She hoped to find another job in media, but realized, as the Columbia Journalism Review put it, "women like Huddy are blacklisted by the entire news industry."

So many of the women who made public allegations of sexual harassment at Fox and other news networks have been professionally discarded in the process, finding it hard to land work again in the industry they loved and were trying to protect from alleged predators like O'Reilly, Matt Lauer, Charlie Rose and Mark Halperin.

Of the 15 women who made public allegations of sexual harassment at Fox, only one had found another job in TV news as of April 2018. None who had filed sexual harassment claims found jobs in news, according to the CJR report.

I personally know half a dozen former colleagues and friends who are still unemployed, years after bravely revealing their abuse at work.

But O'Reilly's 2016 accuser did finally find another broadcast job, after reeling from the financial consequences of suing Fox. In 2018, Huddy was thrilled to get a full-time co-hosting gig at a New York radio station, where she is currently employed.

It's the very same one looking to hire O'Reilly now.

Upon the news, Huddy tweeted: "Yes, I'm aware. No, I have no comment except to say I'll continue to focus on the job I was hired to do, and speak honestly and authentically about my beliefs." She later added, "Company Christmas party should be a real zinger this year."

By S.E. CUPP
Tribune News Service

S.E. Cupp is the host of "S.E. Cupp Unfiltered" on CNN.

While Huddy is publicly taking the news in stride, it's hard to imagine how agonizing the prospect of working alongside her alleged harasser must be, and how galling to know her employer doesn't seem to care.

Gretchen Carlson, who also sued Fox News and Roger Ailes for sexual harassment, was more pointed: "Please boycott WABC if true," she tweeted, saying it is "disgusting" to give a platform back to Bill O'Reilly "after he was ousted from Fox News for multiple sexual harassment allegations and massive payouts to women."

But we shouldn't be surprised. Plenty of the men who were exposed during the #MeToo movement feel more than entitled to fully reenter their past lives, regain their livelihood and professional reputations, something their accusers have found nearly impossible.

Halperin, a former ABC and MSNBC political analyst accused by multiple women of soliciting sex from co-workers, groping and rubbing his erect penis on colleagues, whined earlier this year that "murderers in our society who get out of prison are afforded an opportunity to go on with some aspect of their life." He got a book deal in 2019.

Former NBC anchor Matt Lauer, accused of rape by a former staffer, and found by NBC to have engaged in inappropriate behavior, allegedly wants to make a comeback too.

In March, comedian Louis C. K., who admitted to masturbating in front of his female colleagues, returned to a packed theater in Washington, D.C., where he joked, "How was 2018 and 2019 for you guys? Anyone else get in global amounts of trouble?" Just this week he was photographed alongside Dave Chapelle at his virtual comedy show.

Is this really what justice looks like? A professional graveyard

See O'REILLY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

COVID-19's toll extends beyond record deaths, the sick and unemployed. Wear a mask

By FABIOLA SANTIAGO
Miami Herald

Fabiola Santiago is a columnist for the Miami Herald. *Readers may email her at fsantiago@miamiherald.com.*

COVID-19's human toll is immeasurable.

In places such as Florida's epicenter, Miami-Dade County, the suffering isn't fully captured in the record number of deaths and infections, and the plight of the unemployed.

There's the husband in Aventura, Florida, never before separated from his wife, who tells you, sobbing, that he hasn't been allowed to see the elderly woman, who suffers from Alzheimer's, in five long months. Devoted to her care even after he was forced to place her in a nursing home, he no longer sees the point in living.

There's the angst-ridden mother worried about her diabetic son serving a short sentence for a white-collar crime in Miami's COVID-infested Federal Correctional Institution. For him, she says, voice breaking, "a mistake" in an otherwise law-abiding life can turn into a death sentence in the time of the coronavirus.

And, there are all of the family members and friends of people who have died, from COVID-19 and other illnesses, who are left alone to grieve because it's not safe to get together. Adding to the pain of loss, they also must wait for too many days to bury their loved ones.

There are more bodies to bury or cremate than funeral homes, incinerators and cemeteries can handle.

COVID-19 HERE TO SAY

Worse yet, this human suffering isn't ending anytime soon.

We will only see more of it.

The highly infectious disease, now too widespread in the United States and abroad, likely is here to stay, experts say.

Yet, too many people still don't understand the relation between their actions in moments that may seem ordinary but can turn catastrophic—and the wholesale suffering among us.

What can you expect when not even law enforcement officers follow the mask and social distancing mandates?

Sunday afternoon, I came upon a Florida Highway Patrol officer addressing a driver he had apparently pulled over, or perhaps, was simply assisting in northwest Miami-Dade.

It would have been a mere rubber-necking moment if we weren't in the middle of a raging global pandemic, if the United States weren't the country leading the world in the numbers of infections and dead, and if Miami-Dade, weren't the epicenter of human suffering.

But this FHP officer wore no mask—and his face was in direct line with the driver as he was speaking.

No matter how kindly you look at it, the lack of concern for others he displayed is outrageous.

He wasn't thinking about the health of the driver, the health of his own family or that of fellow officers he comes into contact with every day.

Gov. Ron DeSantis might be refusing to issue a statewide mask mandate, but there is one in place in Miami-Dade—and the officer was in clear violation of it.

"The health and safety of the public and our employees remains our top priority, and the Florida Highway Patrol is following current CDC guidance for law enforcement," Lt. Derrick Rahming said in an email.

The "what law enforcement needs to know about that coronavirus disease" guidance by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention repeats what we've all heard: Stay six feet away from people and wear protective equipment (PPE).

This officer was doing neither.

I captured the exchange on my phone not to shame him, but to use his selfish and thoughtless behavior to call attention to the potential for transmission we all face in everyday moments—and to illustrate the connection of lax attitudes to people's suffering.

AP

A devotee, wearing a protective face mask, stands before a makeshift altar honoring the patron saint of the Guatemalan capital, the Virgin of the Assumption, marking her feast day in the courtyard of the church bearing her name, in Guatemala City, Saturday, Aug. 15, 2020.

This driver went home, or shopping, or wherever after this encounter with the officer. The officer likely went home to his family, too. He may have been in contact with other officers after this encounter. If officer or driver had been exposed to COVID, imagine the community transmission and the potential for devastation unleashed.

We're never going to make any inroads in containing this disease, never mind sustain any gains, until everyone gets on the same page about prevention.

Wearing a mask is the first line of defense.

None of us is safe until we all understand how easily this disease is transmitted.

None of us is safe until we all practice empathy, protect others and, by doing so, protect ourselves.

We're all suffering in some way. Accept it, and show some respect to fellow humans.

O'REILLY

From Page 8

of women who put their careers and lives on the line to expose the powerful men who hurt them, and those same men carrying on with their freedom, livelihood and career opportunities like nothing ever happened?

Sadly, despite the relative success of #MeToo, women have always known these to be the stakes and circumstances, which is what prevented us from coming forward in the first place. When we see there are only consequences for us, not them, coming forward just doesn't seem worth the risks.

75

From Page 8

follow below, will one day be true.

NEW WORLD, AUG. 15, 1945

The Japanese surrendered because they had to. Their bid for domination of the East, more foolhardy than Hitler's bid for domination of Europe, turned out to be what all sane men knew it was certain to be—the beginning of their own destruction.

It is too soon for us to count the cost of our own survival and final victory. The reward is worth the cost whatever that may turn out to be. For generations at least the world is freed from the kind of threat to which the Germans and the (Japanese) gave form. Whatever form the new world may take, it will be purged, at least, of the obscenity of glorified race hatred and of sadistic debauchery.

Most of our boys can now come home. Those who cannot come home are part of the price we have paid. May their memory never fail us, for they are the chosen of a magnificent generation.

Let us give thanks that when this testing came, we were equal to it. Let us honor the men who led us in the struggle beginning with Franklin D. Roosevelt. Let us be proud that the man who brought the war to a conclusion, President Harry S. Truman, is an unassuming American with so much in common with the uncounted millions of us. Let us remember the Navy and the men who manned it, without whose resourcefulness we should not have been able to carry the war either to Hitler or to Hirohito. Let us remember the army and the brave humility of General Eisenhower, a soldier who turned out to be a great man. Let us remember General Marshall and Admiral King and General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz. Let us remember all these and the officers and men who served under them and died under them that we might see this happy day.

We can be thankful, too, that we face the difficulties of the new Era now upon us better prepared than appeared possible when the Japanese struck in December, 1941.

In those simple days we were still regardless of our own strength in the world and the duties and obligations which that strength imposed. Half of us, at least, looked upon Britain with hardly less suspicion than we had for Germany. Russia was an unknown land feared for her potentialities for evil, China a sentimental abstraction. Today Britain is our closest ally, China our great hope. But we know beyond question that the future of the world and of our own country depends upon our friendship with Russia. It is something to have acquired so much wisdom.

Actually, we have done more to recognize our place in the world. We have taken positive and well defined steps to define it and other positive and well defined steps to order it. We have assisted In the drafting of the first Charter of the United Nations and our Senate has ratified that Charter, all but unanimously. Instead of facing the world with a tariff wall so high that intercourse is all but prohibited, we have agreed to trade with the world on a more rational basis than we have traded since we were a weak agricultural people. We have pledged billions of our wealth in a cooperative effort to achieve fiscal stability among the nations. These undertakings, too, have had the wholehearted support of our elected representatives, regardless of party.

As important as these things, perhaps even more important, we have abandoned some part, at least, of our doubt of the Russians. We know, of course, that many issues will arise between ourselves and them. They will be difficult issues which only wisdom and patience can solve. But we also know that they have learned, as we have, some of the art of compromise; that they have learned, as we have, some of the art of teamwork. That is no small foundation on which to build.

Difficult days are ahead of us, days which will lack the singleness of purpose which only war can provide. We have complex problems to confront in the management of German affairs and Japanese affairs, dreary problems, almost endless problems. We have the responsibility, in large measure, for the reconstruction of the countries of Europe. A major part of China's difficulties will be our difficulties, too. We must use up much of our energies in these assignments.

We have, in addition, that whole bundle of domestic issues which we sum up in the cold abstraction "reconversion." The word is almost meaningless but it implies the welfare of almost all of us—farmers, workers, business men, industrialists, professional men. It means happiness or misery for millions of husbands and wives and their children. Here our course is still to be charted, and here past mistakes, forgotten during the exhilaration of war, will come back to haunt us. Here our emotions will warp our judgment unless we have uncommon fortitude and patience.

But if we have patience, and if we have fortitude, these problems to can be solved. It can be a brave new world if we will it so.

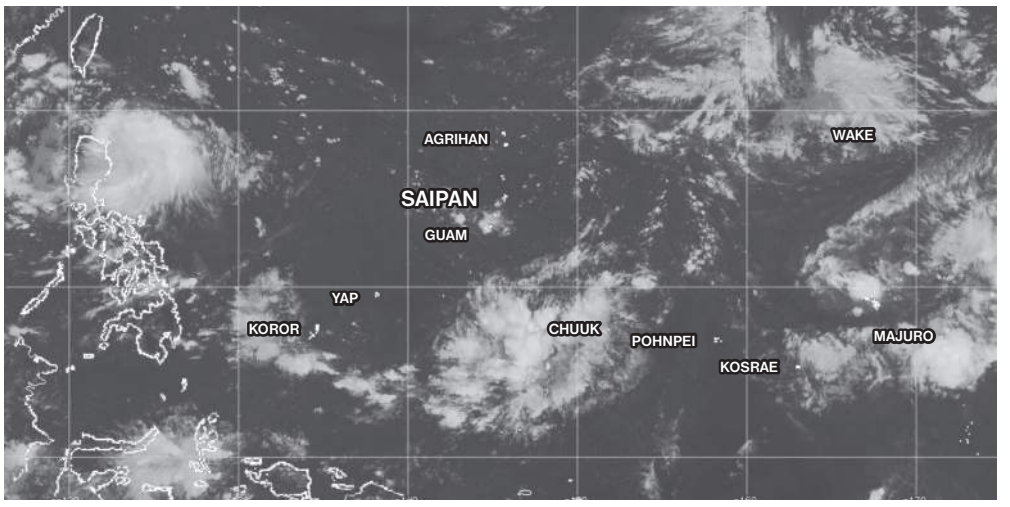
(c) 2020 *The Baltimore Sun*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
86º 76º	86º 76º	87º 76º	87º 76º	87º 76º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:56 AM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

ASCAT surface analysis from last night and local observations indicate light east to northeast winds over the Marianas. Models keep winds light with winds 10 mph or less through the whole forecast. Models are also consistent in showing no large scale weather features affecting the local area. With these conditions local weather will be at the mercy of adequate moisture, daytime heating, and possibly briefly by passing upper-level systems. The light winds and daytime heating will lead to a higher chance for thunderstorms and scattered showers over Guam during the afternoon.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	84° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:02 AM	6:38 PM
Tuesday	6:02 AM	6:38 PM
Wednesday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	3:50 AM	5:13 PM	-
Tuesday	4:50 AM	6:06 PM	-
Wednesday	5:51 AM	6:57 PM	-
Thursday	6:53 AM	7:45 PM	-
Friday	7:53 AM	8:31 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	61° / 54°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	84° / 70°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	72° / 61°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	75° / 62°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 81°
Melbourne	Showers	57° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°
New York	Mostly Sunny	90° / 70°
Osaka	Thunderstorms	91° / 79°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	79° / 64°
Busan	Showers	84° / 77°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	97° / 72°
Salem	Thunderstorms	91° / 75°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	66° / 56°
Seoul	Thunderstorms	82° / 72°
Tokyo	Cloudy	81° / 72°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	89° / 74°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:09 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.34
5:05 AM	LOW TIDE	1.92
12:28 PM	HIGH TIDE	-0.11
7:39 PM	LOW TIDE	1.98

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**			
UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4, 6	UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklist-household-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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Business

Matson subsidiaries rated among top freight transportation companies

HONOLULU—Matson, Inc. subsidiary companies Matson Navigation Company, Matson Logistics, and Span Alaska have all been rated by shipping customers among the top freight transportation companies in the industry's leading survey of service quality.

The ratings were published today by Logistics Management magazine and Peerless Research Group (PRG), whose annual Quest for Quality Awards survey of qualified buyers of transportation and logistics services is considered the most important measure of customer satisfaction and performance excellence in the industry.

This year's 37th annual survey drew more than 4,500 participants who rated transportation companies in all modes and service disciplines against the five criteria most valued by shipping customers.

MATSON INC.

Founded in 1882, Matson provides a vital lifeline to the domestic non-contiguous economies of Hawaii, Alaska, and Guam, and to other island economies in Micronesia.

Of the 11 domestic and foreign companies rated in the Ocean Carriers category for On-time Performance, Value, Information Technology, Customer Service, and Equipment & Operations, Matson was rated second highest overall, missing the top rank by 0.07 points. Matson was rated #1 in On-Time Performance, Customer Service, and Equipment & Operations.

Of the 23 domestic and international companies rated in the Third Party Logistics category for Carrier Selection/Negotiation, Order Fulfillment, Transportation Distribution, Inventory Management, and Logistics Information Systems, Matson Logistics was rated fifth highest overall and #1 for Logistics Information Systems.

Of the seven companies in the Intermodal Marketing Companies category, Matson Logistics was ranked #1 overall, earning the top rating in On-Time Performance, Value, and Information Technology service disciplines.

Matson Logistics subsidiary Span Alaska also earned a Quest for Quality Award this year in the category of Western Regional LTL (Less than Container Load) logistics providers, ranking #1 for Information Technology.

More information on the 2020 Quest for Quality annual survey and awards is available at: https://www.logisticsmgmt.com/article/37th_annual_quest_for_quality_awards_pristine_service_prevails_in_challengi

Founded in 1882, Matson is a leading provider of ocean transportation and logistics services. Matson provides a vital lifeline to the domestic non-contiguous economies of Hawaii, Alaska, and Guam, and to other island economies in Micronesia. Matson also operates a premium, expedited service from China to Long Beach, California and also provides services to Okinawa, Japan and various islands in the South Pacific. The Company's fleet of owned and chartered vessels includes containerships, combination container and roll-on/roll-off ships and custom-designed barges. Matson Logistics, established in 1987, extends the geographic reach of Matson's transportation network throughout the continental U.S. Its integrated, asset-light logistics services include rail intermodal, highway brokerage, warehousing, freight consolidation, Asia supply chain services, and forwarding to Alaska. Additional information about the company is available at www.matson.com. ***(PR)***

US retail sales rise for 3rd month but slowdown expected

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans increased their spending at retail stores and restaurants in July for a third straight month, but some evidence suggests that sales are weakening with the expiration of government rescue aid that had previously put more money in people's pockets.

Friday's report from the Commerce Department showed that retail purchases rose by a seasonally adjusted 1.2% last month. The gains of the past three months have now restored retail purchases to their levels before they plunged in March and April when the pandemic shuttered businesses and paralyzed the economy.

Yet with Americans' overall income now likely shrinking, economists expect spending to slow further. July's sales increase was much smaller than May's 18.3% gain and June's 8.4% increase, when shoppers flocked to newly reopened businesses. In July, the viral outbreak re-surged in much of the nation, forcing some businesses to shut down again.

Sales at restaurants and bars grew 5% last month after much more robust increases of more than 30% in May and 27% in June. Restaurant and bar revenue remains about one-fifth below its levels of a year ago.

Solid sales gains were posted last month at electronics and appliances stores, reflecting the needs of mostly higher-income people who are now working from home. Purchases at clothing stores, gas stations, and drugstores also rose. Furniture sales were flat after a huge gain in June.

The problem now is that roughly 28 million laid-off workers are no longer receiving a $600-a-week federal unemployment check that they had received in addition to their state benefit but that lapsed last month. In addition, a $1,200 stimulus check that was sent to many Americans in April and May likely won't be repeated. Negotiations in Congress on a new economic relief package have collapsed in rancor and show no sign of restarting anytime soon.

Many retailers have said the supplemental unemployment aid had helped spur sales of clothes and other non-discretionary items in the spring and early summer.

"Consumers have been largely shielded from economic realities by the various stimulus and benefit programs," said Neil Saunders, managing director of GlobalData Retail. "However, many of those advantages expired at the end of July, and August will be the first month when the chill winds of economic turmoil hits many households."

Consumers had started to cut back on spending in late July, according to a GlobalData survey, and spending fell sharply in the first week of August. Many consumers are spending more around the home and on recreational equipment while still maintaining a nervous outlook.

Jennifer Zaspel and her husband, who live in Milwaukee, recently bought a $2,000 bike and are having a patio built in their backyard. Still, Zaspel, a 33-year-old psychiatrist, said her full pay was just reinstated after the academic institution she works for had temporarily cut her pay in a cost-saving move. Fearful of another wave of viral cases, she intends to rein in her spending.

"We are going to continue to keep things fairly tight just because I am anticipating another surge," said Zaspel, who buys second-hand clothing and toys for her 7-month old son.

Friday's report on retail sales captures only about one-third of all consumer spending. The rest involves services—from haircuts and gym memberships to movie tickets and hotel rooms—all of which were hit disproportionately hard by the pandemic and have yet to recover

In the April-June quarter, consumer spending collapsed by a record amount, causing the economy to shrink at a previously unheard-of annual rate of 32.9%. Economists have forecast that growth is rebounding in the July-September quarter at a roughly 20% annual rate, though that pace would still leave the economy far below pre-pandemic levels.

Trump orders Chinese owner of TikTok to sell US assets

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump on Friday gave the Chinese company ByteDance 90 days to divest itself of any assets used to support the popular TikTok app in the United States.

Trump's executive order said there is "credible evidence that leads me to believe that ByteDance … might take action that threatens to impair the national security of the United States."

Trump last week ordered sweeping but vague bans on dealings with the Chinese owners of TikTok and the messaging app WeChat, saying they are a threat to U.S. national security, foreign policy and the economy.

It remains unclear what the TikTok orders mean for the app's 100 million U.S. users, many of them teenagers or young adults who use it to post and watch short-form videos. Trump on Friday also ordered ByteDance to divest itself of "any data obtained or derived" from TikTok users in the U.S.

Microsoft is in talks to buy parts of TikTok.

White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany defended Trump's earlier TikTok and WeChat orders Thursday, telling reporters he was exercising his emergency authority under a 1977 law enabling the president to regulate international commerce to address unusual threats.

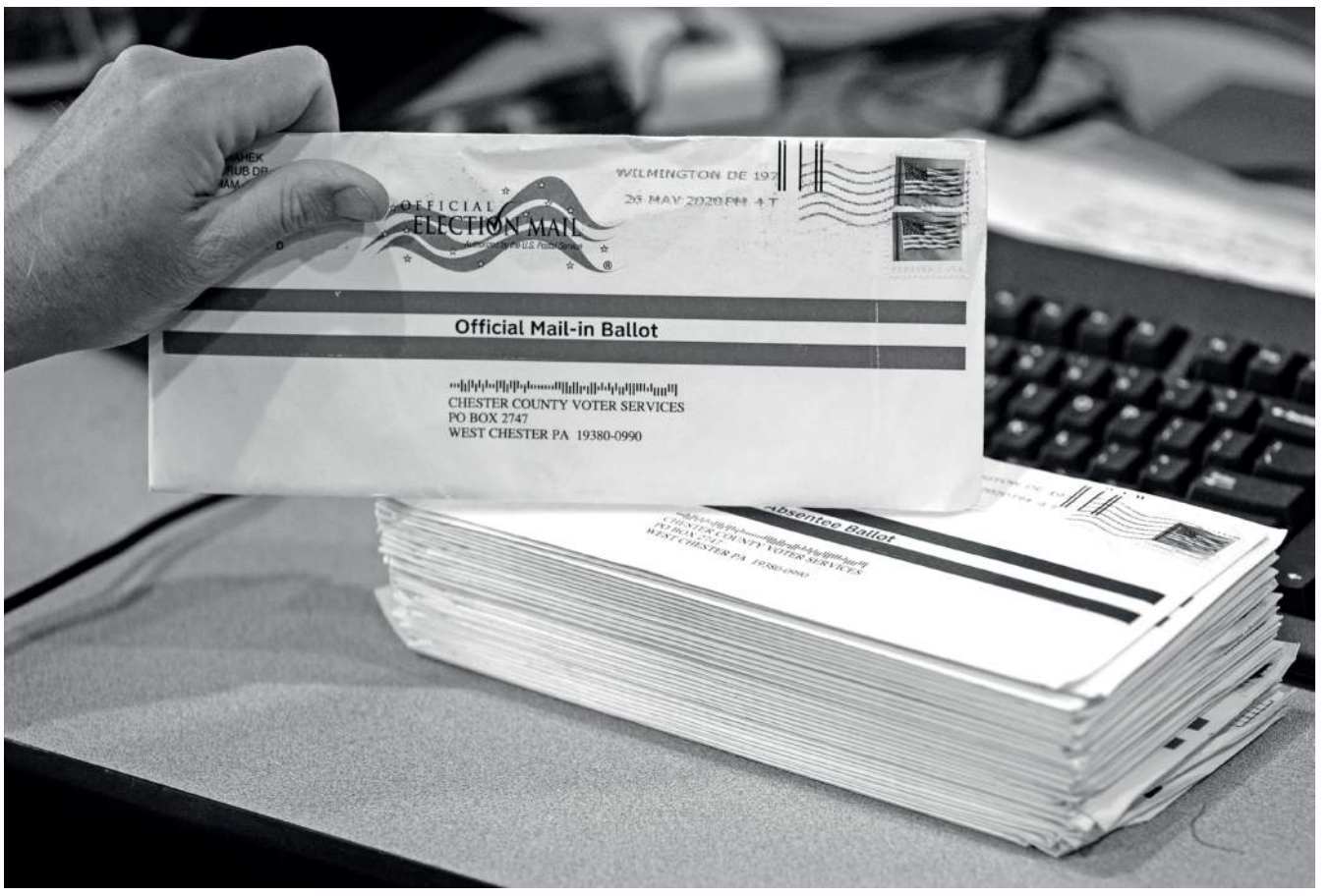
"The administration is committed to protecting the American people from all cyber threats and these apps collect significant amounts of private data on users," said McEnany, adding that the Chinese government can access and use such data.

TikTok said it spent nearly a year trying to engage in "good faith" with the U.S. government to address these concerns.

"What we encountered instead was that the Administration paid no attention to facts, dictated terms of an agreement without going through standard legal processes, and tried to insert itself into negotiations between private businesses," the company's statement said.

Nation

Postal Service warns states across US about mail voting



AP

In this May 28, 2020, file photo, mail-in primary election ballots are processed at the Chester County Voter Services office in West Chester, Pa.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. Postal Service is warning states coast to coast that it cannot guarantee all ballots cast by mail for the November election will arrive in time to be counted, even if mailed by state deadlines, raising the possibility that millions of voters could be disenfranchised.

Voters and lawmakers in several states are also complaining that some curbside mail collection boxes are being removed.

Even as President Donald Trump rails against wide-scale voting by mail, the post office is bracing for an unprecedented number of mail-in ballots as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

The warning letters sent to states raise the possibility that many Americans eligible for mail-in ballots this fall will not have them counted. But that is not the intent, Postmaster General Louis DeJoy said in his own letter to Democratic congressional leaders.

The post office is merely "asking elected officials and voters to realistically consider how the mail works, and be mindful of our delivery standards, in order to provide voters ample time to cast ballots through the mail," wrote DeJoy, a prominent Trump political donor who was recently appointed. The warning letters were first reported by The Washington Post.

The back-and-forth comes amid a vigorous campaign by Trump to sow doubts about mail-in voting as he faces a difficult fight for reelection against Democrat Joe Biden.

Though Trump and many of his top aides cast their own ballots by mail, he's repeatedly criticized efforts to allow more people to do so, which he argues without evidence will lead to increased voter fraud that could cost him the election. Meanwhile, members of Congress from both parties have voiced concerns that curbside mailboxes, which is how many will cast their ballots, have abruptly been removed in some states.

At the same time that the need for timely delivery of the mail is peaking, service has been curtailed amid cost-cutting and efficiency measures ordered by the DeJoy, the new postmaster general, who is a former supply-chain CEO. He has implemented measures to eliminate overtime pay and hold mail over if distribution centers are running late.

The Post Office released letters it sent to all 50 states and the District Columbia on its website. While some states with permissive vote-by-mail laws were given a less stringent warning, the majority with more restrictive requirements that limit when a ballot must be cast were told the situation was more dire.

The laws, the letters said, create a "risk that ballots requested near the deadline under state law will not be returned by mail in time to be counted."

Many state officials criticized the move.

"This is a deeply troubling development in what is becoming a clear pattern of attempted voter suppression by the Trump administration," Democratic Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam said in a statement. "I am committed to making sure all Virginians have access to the ballot box, and will continue to work with state and federal lawmakers to ensure safe, secure and accessible elections this fall."

Kim Wyman, the Republican secretary of state in Washington state, where all voting is by mail, said sending fall ballot material to millions of voters there is a "routine operation of the U.S. Postal Service."

"Politicizing these administrative processes is dangerous and undermines public confidence in our elections," she said in a statement. "This volume of work is by no means unusual, and is an operation I am confident the U.S. Postal Service is sufficiently prepared to fulfill."

Meanwhile, the removal of Postal Service collection mailboxes triggered concerns and anger in Oregon and Montana. Boxes were also removed in Indiana and other states.

Ex-FBI lawyer to plead guilty in Trump-Russia probe review

WASHINGTON (AP)—A former FBI lawyer plans to plead guilty to making a false statement in the first criminal case arising from U.S. Attorney John Durham's investigation into the probe of ties between Russia and the 2016 Trump campaign, his lawyer said Friday.

Kevin Clinesmith is accused of altering a government email about a former Trump campaign adviser who was a target of secret FBI surveillance, according to documents filed in Washington's federal court. His lawyer, Justin Shur, told The Associated Press that Clinesmith intends to plead guilty to the single false statement count and that he regrets his actions.

The case against Clinesmith was cheered by President Donald Trump and his supporters as they look to the Durham investigation to lift Trump's wobbly reelection prospects and to expose what they see as wrongdoing as the FBI opened an investigation into whether the Trump campaign was coordinating with the Kremlin to sway the outcome of the 2016 election.

"The fact is they spied on my campaign and they got caught," Trump told reporters at the White House on Friday. His political campaign issued its own statement saying "abuses of power" in the Russia investigation "represent the greatest political crime in American history" and everyone involved should be held accountable.

Yet the five-page charging document is limited in scope and does not allege criminal wrongdoing by anyone other than Clinesmith, nor does it offer evidence to support Trump's assertions that the Russia probe was tainted by widespread political bias in the FBI. It makes clear that the FBI relied on Clinesmith's own misrepresentations as it sought to renew its surveillance of former Trump campaign aide Carter Page.

The Durham probe, which is also examining the intelligence community's assessment about Russian election interference, has caused concern among Democrats, who view it as a politically charged exercise meant to relitigate an already closed investigation. They fear that charges or public reports issued so close to the 2020 election could be timed to affect November's vote.

Durham's inquiry has proceeded alongside a parallel effort by Senate Republicans to discredit the Russia probe and as Attorney General William Barr has escalated his own criticism of the FBI's probe. Documents released in recent months have called into question the validity of information the FBI relied on, particularly from a dossier of Democratic-funded research, when the agency applied for applications to surveil Page.

Study hints, can't prove, survivor plasma fights COVID-19

Mayo Clinic researchers reported a strong hint that blood plasma from COVID-19 survivors helps other patients recover, but it's not proof and some experts worry if, amid clamor for the treatment, they'll ever get a clear answer.

More than 64,000 patients in the U.S. have been given convalescent plasma, a century-old approach to fend off flu and measles before vaccines. It's a go-to tactic when new diseases come along, and history suggests it works against some, but not all, infections.

There's no solid evidence yet that it fights the coronavirus and, if so, how best to use it. But preliminary data from 35,000 coronavirus patients treated with plasma offers what Mayo lead researcher Dr. Michael Joyner on Friday called "signals of efficacy."

There were fewer deaths among people given plasma within three days of diagnosis, and also among those given plasma containing the highest levels of virus-fighting antibodies, Joyner and colleagues reported.

The problem: This wasn't a formal study. The patients were treated in different ways in hospitals around the country as part of a Food and Drug Administration program designed to speed access to the experimental therapy. That so-called "expanded access" program tracks what happens to the recipients, but it cannot prove the plasma—and not other care they received—was the real reason for improvement.

Rigorous studies underway around the country are designed to get that proof, by comparing similar patients randomly assigned to get plasma or a dummy infusion in addition to regular care. But those studies have been difficult to finish as the virus waxes and wanes in different cities. Also, some patients have requested plasma rather than agreeing to a study that might give them a placebo instead.

"For 102 years we've been debating whether or not convalescent plasma works," said Dr. Mila Ortigoza of New York University, referring to plasma's use in the 1918 flu pandemic. This time around, "we really need undisputable evidence."

Ortigoza is co-leading one such study, which this week is expanding to three other states—Connecticut, Florida and Texas. Her team also is working to pool data with several other clinical trials in other regions, in hopes of faster answers.

"There's concern about when there will be a clear answer," agreed infectious disease specialist Dr. Jeffrey Henderson of Washington University in St. Louis.

He's hopeful the clinical trials will push forward but said the Mayo report is consistent with smaller, earlier plasma studies and "an example of making the best you can of the data that's available."

When the body encounters a new germ, it makes proteins called antibodies that are specially targeted to fight that particular infection. The antibodies float in plasma—the yellowish, liquid part of blood. Because it takes a few weeks for antibodies to form, the hope is that transfusing someone else's antibodies could help patients fight the virus before their own immune system kicks in.

The Mayo findings were posted online ahead of scientific peer review. They show that 20% of people given high-antibody plasma within three days of diagnosis had died within 30 days compared with 30% of people treated later with low-antibody plasma.

Asia

Restrictions in S. Korea; cases in India hit 2.5M

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea on Saturday announced stronger social distancing restrictions for its greater capital area where a surge in COVID-19 cases has threatened to erase the hard-won gains against the virus.

The two-week measures starting Sunday will allow authorities in Seoul and towns in neighboring Gyeonggi Province to shut down high-risk facilities such as nightclubs, karaoke rooms, movie theaters and buffet restaurants if they fail to properly enforce preventive measures, including distancing, temperatures checks, keeping customer lists and requiring masks.

Fans will once again be banned from professional baseball and soccer, just a few weeks after health authorities allowed teams to let in spectators for a portion of their seats in each game.

Gatherings of more than 50 people will be discouraged. Churches will be advised to shift their services online.

Health Minister Park Neunghoo revealed the measures hours after the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 166 newly confirmed cases, the highest daily jump in five months.

Park expressed concern that transmissions are getting out of control in the Seoul metropolitan areas, where health authorities have found it increasingly difficult to track infection routes.

"The current situation looks like an early stage of a massive round of transmissions," Park said. "If we fail to properly control the spread now, a broader and quicker spread of the virus would spike the number of patients and reach nationwide."

Officials have previously resisted calls to enforce stronger distancing measures, citing concerns for the fragile economy that policymakers say could possibly shrink for the first time in two decades.

South Korea's caseload is now at 15,039, including 305 deaths.

The KCDC said 155 of the new infections were local, mostly from the densely populated Seoul area where authorities scurried to shut down thousands of churches.

Many of them had failed to properly enforce preventive measures, allowing worshipers to take off their masks, sing in choirs or eat together in diners.

Other clusters have been tied to nursing homes, schools, restaurants, outdoor markets and door-to-door salespeople.

Officials also worried about demonstrations by thousands of anti-government protesters in Seoul on Saturday, the 75th anniversary of the country's liberation from Japanese rule at the end of World War II.

In other developments in the Asia-Pacific region:

■ India's confirmed coronavirus cases have crossed 2.5 million with another biggest single-day spike of 65,002 in the past 24 hours. India is behind the United States and Brazil in the number of cases. The Health Ministry on Saturday also reported another 996 deaths for a total of 49,036. The average daily reported cases jumped from around 15,000 in the first week of July to more than 50,000 at the beginning of August. The Health Ministry said the rise shows the extent of testing with 800,000 carried out in a single day. But experts say India needs to pursue testing more vigorously. India's two-month lockdown imposed nationwide in late March kept infections low. But it has eased and is now largely being enforced in high-risk areas. The new cases spiked after India reopened shops and manufacturing and allowed hundreds of thousands of migrant workers to return to their homes from coronavirus-hit regions. Subways, schools and movie theaters remain closed.

■ The Australian state of Victoria continues to flatten the curve in its wave of COVID-19 infections and deaths in the hard-hit area. It reported four more deaths and 303 new cases in the past 24 hours. It's the second-lowest daily figure in Victoria this month after 278 cases on Thursday. Victoria's daily numbers are gradually decreasing, with the seven-day average down to 344 from 521 a week ago. But authorities warn there is more progress needed before lockdown restrictions in the city of Melbourne can be eased. Melbourne residents and those in a nearby shire remain subject to strict nighttime curfews, time limits on outdoor exercise, distance allowed from home, mandatory public mask wearing and shutdowns of non-essential industries. Chief Health Officer Brett Sutton says, "We could not conceive of opening up with 200 cases a day. We couldn't do it with 100 cases a day. We have to head for the lowest possible number." The four deaths announced Saturday take the state's toll to 293 and the Australian COVID-19 death total to 379.

Moon extends olive branch to Tokyo over wartime history

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Saturday offered talks with Japan to resolve a bitter feud over wartime grievances as the nation celebrated the 75th anniversary of its liberation from Japanese colonial rule at the end of World War II.

In a nationally televised speech, Moon said that his government has "left the door of consultations wide open" for Japan to settle a long legal and diplomatic dispute over compensation for Koreans who had been subjected to forced labor at mines, factories and other sites.

Relations between the two countries sank to their lowest point in decades last year as they allowed their disagreements over wartime history to spill over into issues related to trade and military cooperation.

Moon, who tempered his words, avoided direct criticism of the conservative Japanese government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, which has insisted that all compensation issues were settled when the two countries normalized relations under a 1965 treaty.

Japan's stance was refuted by South Korea's Supreme Court in 2018, when it ruled that the deal did not cover individual rights to seek reparations and called on Japanese companies to compensate aging Korean plaintiffs who had been forced into slave labor.

"Our government is ready to sit face-to-face with the Japanese government at any time" to find a mutual solution the victims can support, Moon said. He said the process would help build a "bridge of friendship and future cooperation" between the countries.

Tokyo didn't immediately respond to Moon's comments.

In a move Seoul saw as retaliation for the court ruling, Japan last year tightened export restrictions on certain high-tech materials used by major South Korean companies to produce semiconductors and smartphone displays—key exports for South Korea. South Korea has proceed with a complaint to the World Trade Organization.

World

US official: No bailout for Lebanon, calls for change

BEIRUT (AP)—There can be no financial bailout for Lebanon, a senior U.S. official said Saturday, calling on the country's political leaders to heed popular calls for change, real reform and an end to endemic corruption.

AP

A Lebanese army soldier stands guard at the site of the Aug. 4 explosion that hit the seaport of Beirut, Lebanon, Saturday, Aug. 15, 2020.

David Hale, U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs, said the U.S. and its allies will respond to "systemic reforms with sustained financial support." He also called for a thorough and transparent investigation into the Aug. 4 blast that killed nearly 180 people and wounded thousands.

He said an FBI team is arriving this weekend to take part in the probe at the invitation of Lebanese authorities.

Hale arrived in Beirut on Thursday, where he met with volunteers helping out at the site of the blast, as well as the country's top political and religious leadership.

"America calls on Lebanon's political leaders to finally respond to the people's longstanding and legitimate demands and create a credible plan – accepted by the Lebanese people – for good governance, sound economic and financial reform, and an end to the endemic corruption that has stifled Lebanon's tremendous potential," he said.

"But as the dozens of young activists and volunteers I met so bluntly demanded, there can be no bailout," Hale said in a recorded message posted on the U.S. Embassy website Saturday.

Hale's comments were in line with Washington's message before the visit. But he didn't detail whether the U.S. and Western allies are ready to support a government in which Lebanon's powerful Iran-backed Hezbollah group has clout.

After visiting the site of the blast, Hale called for the state to exercise control over its borders and ports, in a clear reference to claims Hezbollah group controls them.

"We can never go back to an era in which anything goes at the port or borders of Lebanon," Hale said.

Washington and its allies consider the Iran-backed group Hezbollah a terrorist organization, and have accused it of abusing government funds and undermining state authority. There was speculation in the local media that Hale would be pushing for a government that excludes the group.

In a clear message, Hezbollah's leader Hassan Nasrallah said his group is pushing for a national unity government that has wide political representation and backing. Seeking a "neutral government," he said, would be "a waste of time."

Popular anger has been building up in Lebanon against the ruling elite's corruption, mismanagement and political uncertainty many blame for pushing the country toward bankruptcy and poverty.

The blast only increased the public's rage. The cause of the fire that ignited nearly 3,000 tons of ammonium nitrate at Beirut's port remains unclear. Documents have emerged showing the country's top leadership and security officials were aware of the chemicals stored at the port.

Many Lebanese are calling for an independent international probe, saying they don't trust the long-entrenched political factions to allow any results to come to light that are damaging to their leadership.

Israel strikes Gaza targets after arson balloons launched

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Israeli aircraft bombed several sites belonging to the militant Hamas group in the Gaza Strip for a fifth night in a row, the Israeli military said early Sunday.

Shortly after that announcement, the military said Palestinian militants in Gaza fired two rockets into southern Israel that were intercepted by aerial defense systems. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

The military said the airstrikes were in response to arson balloons that Hamas-affiliated groups sent across the Gaza frontier into Israeli territory. The balloons have caused dozens of fires that burned Israeli farmland in recent days.

On Saturday, dozens of Palestinians took part in nighttime protests along the Gaza-Israel perimeter fence. The military said the protesters "burned tires, hurled explosive devices and grenades towards the security fence and attempted to approach it."

TheGaza health ministry said two demonstrators were wounded by Israeli gunfire.

Israel shouldered Hamas, which rules Gaza, the responsibility for all violent acts from the Palestinian territory.

After months of calm reinforced by the coronavirus pandemic, the Gaza-Israel frontier has turned volatile over the past week.

Khalil al-Hayya, a senior Hamas official, accused Israel on Saturday of not honoring an informal truce to ease the blockade it has imposed on Gaza since Hamas took it over in 2007.

He told Hamas' al-Aqsa TV that the Palestinian people in Gaza were experiencing "slow death" by the blockade. "The zone of confrontation with the enemy is expanding day after day in response to its continued aggression," he said.

He said Egyptian mediators were expected to visit the region to discuss reinforcing the truce, but no timing has been set.

Health & Wellness

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Holdings HEALTH IS WEALTH Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Masks offer much more protection against coronavirus than many think

By RONG-GONG LIN II AND MAURA DOLAN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO — There's a common refrain that masks don't protect you; they protect other people from your own germs, which is especially important to keep unknowingly infected people from spreading the coronavirus.

But now, there's mounting evidence that masks also protect you.

If you're unlucky enough to encounter an infectious person, wearing any kind of face covering will reduce the amount of virus that your body will take in.

As it turns out, that's pretty important. Breathing in a small amount of virus may lead to no disease or far more mild infection. But inhaling a huge volume of virus particles can result in serious disease or death.

That's the argument Dr. Monica Gandhi, UC San Francisco professor of medicine and medical director of the HIV Clinic at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, is making about why if you are unlucky to get infected with the virus masking can still protect you from more severe disease.

"There is this theory that facial masking reduces the (amount of virus you get exposed to) and disease severity," said Gandhi, who is also director for the Center for AIDS Research at UC San Francisco.

The idea of requiring mask-wearing in public has become an increasingly pressing and politicized issue as California and the rest of the nation see a surge in new cases as the economy reopens.

California this week ordered a reclosure of many businesses, include a statewide halting of all indoor dining and a closure of bars. The state also ordered a closing down in dozens of hard-hit counties, including L.A. County of indoor gyms, houses of worship, hair salons, nail salons and offices for nonessential industries.

But experts say masks are essential for people to wear when they still go out in public, such as to shop or go to medical appointments, and to get exercise like heading to the beach or park.

California has mandated face coverings in public settings since June 18, and a growing number of communities said they will ticket people who disobey the rules. But there remains some resistance to the government mandating wearing masks in some corners of the state, including Orange County.

Some leaders in Orange County have pushed back against requiring students to wear masks should they return to classrooms in the fall.

In policy recommendations approved by the Orange County Board of Education on Monday, a document stated that "requiring children to wear masks during school is not only difficult if not impossible to implement but (is) not based on science. It may even be harmful." Individual districts will have the final say on how schools open.

Some health experts were appalled by that language.

"This anti-mask rhetoric is mind-blowing, dangerous, deadly and polarizing," said Dr. Peter Chin-Hong, professor of medicine and an infectious diseases specialist at UC San Francisco. "There is no evidence that it is dangerous."

In fact, wearing masks can help prevent children from being infected and suffering serious consequences of infection, such as multisystem inflammatory syndrome, a rare condition that has been seen in children who have been infected with the coronavirus. "Kids not only transmit, but they can get sick as well," Chin-Hong said.

While children are less likely to develop severe illness from the coronavirus than adults, they can still be infected, be contagious and transmit the virus to other people, Gandhi said.

Wearing a mask at school would not only reduce their ability to transmit the virus to other classmates, teachers and administrators, but also protect the students from getting infected with a large dose of virus from infected people.

Transmission rates for coronavirus have been rising across the state. Nearly 1,000 of San Francisco's nearly 4,600 cases have been diagnosed in just the last two weeks, said Dr. Grant Colfax, the city's director of public health.

In San Francisco, nearly half of all those who have tested positive in the city are Latinos, he said, even though Latino residents make up just 15% of the city's population. Overall, the city has seen 7.8 new infections per 100,000 residents over the last seven days, far above its goal of no more than 1.8 new infections per 100,000 people.

"This, again, indicates that the virus is spreading throughout the city, particularly ... in the southeast part of the city," Colfax said.

For every one person who contracts the virus, another 1.25 people on average are now infected, he said. "We really need to drive that down to 1 or below as quickly and as soon as possible."

The transmission rate also rose above 1 in L.A. County in June, but has fallen back to 1. "The virus currently rages on in our community," Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer said.

The reason why masks are so important in controlling the spread of the coronavirus is that it can be widely spread by people who are not visibly sick _ either because they haven't yet shown signs of illness, or they will spend the entire course of their infections with little or no symptoms at all.

A key piece of evidence for this emerged earlier this year, on the Diamond Princess cruise ship that carried infected crew and passengers in Asia. A study published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that of 712 people testing positive for the virus, nearly half were asymptomatic at the time of testing.

"We also know that viral load is highest early during disease," said Dr. Chaz Langelier, an assistant professor at UC San Francisco, during the panel discussion. In fact, 44% of transmissions are believed to occur when the infected person has no symptoms, according to a study published in Nature Medicine.

STAY-AT-HOME TOGETHER:

Experts offer advice on keeping relationships healthy during quarantine

BY TREVOR FRASER
ORLANDO SENTINEL

My wife and I play this fun game during quarantine," wrote author Eric Spiegelman in a viral tweet, "it's called 'Why Are You Doing It That Way?' and there are no winners."

It's a joke that hits a little too close to the stay-at-home order for some married or cohabitating couples. In a survey on working from home, tech website GearHungry.com discovered that nearly two out of three couples in Florida said that being home all the time has already put a strain on their relationship. That's higher than the national average of 45% who are claiming to feel that stress.

"In times of stress, any weakness in a relationship becomes more pronounced," said Orlando-based therapist Bill Singer.

Americans are not alone in feeling the coronavirus pinch on their marriages. Numerous sources have reported that China experienced a sharp uptick in divorce filings in March after quarantine restrictions were eased.

Finding answers to this trend isn't easy, according to Elizabeth Lacy, a licensed mental health counselor who works with relationships. "There's definitely a million types of problems and a million types of advice, so it's hard to give one-size-fits-all solutions," said the Melbourne-based practitioner.

Yet the two experts do have some ideas on how people can keep their relationships healthy while in lockdown. The key to the process is the old standby: communication. "It would be a good idea to have family meetings and check-ins," said Lacy.

For the meetings, Lacy suggests taking some real time to bring the entire household together once a week or so. "Sit down with a pad of paper and a pen and list out what are your needs and wants right now," she said.

Check-ins can be less formal affairs that you perform daily with a simple question: Where is your emotional energy and capacity for the day? "If I'm secure and everything is OK, maybe I'm at 85 percent," said Lacy. "If I'm worried about money or safety, maybe that's more like 50 percent."

Worry is one of the drivers of common arguments, according to Singer.

"Oftentimes when people get afraid, they blame other people," he said. He notes there are ways to tackle these issues that build relationship bonds. "As long as we give each other the space to communicate that they have a legitimate concern, working on trying to problem-solve these is a real important thing at this time."

Another element both experts agree on: Find ways to give each other space. "Your partner is used to a lot more space and independence," said Singer.

"It's important to communicate with your partner when you need some alone time," said Lacy.

Singer recognizes this space not just as a breather from one's partner but also as a chance for self-reflection. "The 'We' is only as strong as the two 'Me's,'" he said. "This might be a good time to spend getting to know yourself."

Of course, there are the more simple arguments, such as chores. "Couples that have fallen into a traditional division of labor, now that they're both home, that's not fair anymore," said Lacy. Again, she recommends making discussions about who does what part of the family meetings.

Life & Style

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Sentencing date set for NY self-help guru in sex slave case

NEW YORK (AP)—The leader of a cult-like self-improvement group in upstate New York who was convicted last year on charges that he turned some of his followers into sex slaves will face sentencing on Oct. 27, a judge said Friday. In a conference call, U.S. District Judge Nicholas Garaufis told lawyers for Keith Raniere he was making arrangements for the jailed Raniere to be sentenced in person at a federal court in Brooklyn and for his victims to speak to the court if they want. "We need to figure out how to configure the courtroom to make sure everyone is safe" in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, the judge said. At trial, prosecutors told jurors that the 59-year-old Raniere's organization, NXIVM—pronounced NE-HK-see-uhm—operated like a cult that won him the devotion of a wealthy heiress and Hollywood actresses. His adherents included actress Allison Mack of TV's "Smallville"; an heiress to the Seagram's liquor fortune, Clare Bronfman; and a daughter of TV star Catherine Oxenberg of "Dynasty" fame. Raniere is facing 15 years to life in prison.

"The Secret" author Rhonda Byrne has new release in November

NEW YORK (AP)—The author of the million-selling self-help book "The Secret" is aiming even higher with her next work. Rhonda Byrne's "The Greatest Secret" is coming out Nov. 24, HarperOne announced Friday. According to the publisher, "The Greatest Secret" takes readers on a journey that provides "the most direct way out for those experiencing hardship and the path to end pain and suffering endured by so many." Byrne said in a statement that "With every step you take through this book, you will become happier and your life will become more effortless, fears and uncertainty of the future will no longer plague you, anxiety and stress about your daily struggles or world events will dissolve, and you can and will be free of every form of suffering." Byrne's new book, like "The Secret," will be released through publisher Judith Curr. She was head of the Simon & Schuster imprint Atria Books in 2006 when "The Secret" came out, and she is now president and publisher of HarperOne.

Apple, Google drop Fortnite from app stores over payments

NEW YORK (AP)—Apple and Google dropped the popular game Fortnite from their app stores after the game's developer introduced a direct payment plan that bypasses their platforms. Apple and Google both take a 30% cut from in-app revenue purchases in games, which has long been a sore spot with developers. Fortnite is free, but users can pay for in game accoutrements like weapons and skins. Its developer, Epic Games, said in a blog post Thursday that it was introducing Epic Direct payments, a direct payment plan for Apple's iOS and Google Play. Epic said the system is the same payment system it already uses to process payments on PC and Mac computers and Android phones. Apple and Google said the service violates their guidelines. "Epic enabled a feature in its app which was not reviewed or approved by Apple, and they did so with the express intent of violating the App Store guidelines regarding in-app payments that apply to every developer who sells digital goods or services," Apple said in statement. Epic Games did not immediately return a request for comment.

Chrissy Teigen, John Legend expecting baby No. 3

NEW YORK (AP)—It's baby No. 3 for John Legend and Chrissy Teigen. The couple revealed they are expecting in Legend's new video for the song "Wild," which premiered Thursday and features Teigen and Legend holding her baby bump at the end of the clip. The video also features their 4-year-old daughter Luna and 2-year-old son Miles. "Wild," featuring Grammy-winning singer-guitarist Gary Clark Jr., is from Legend's recent album "Bigger Love." The video, shot in Mexico, was directed by Nabil Elderkin, who introduced Legend to Teigen 14 years ago. Legend and Teigen were married in 2013.

Marge Simpson uses her voice to call out Trump adviser

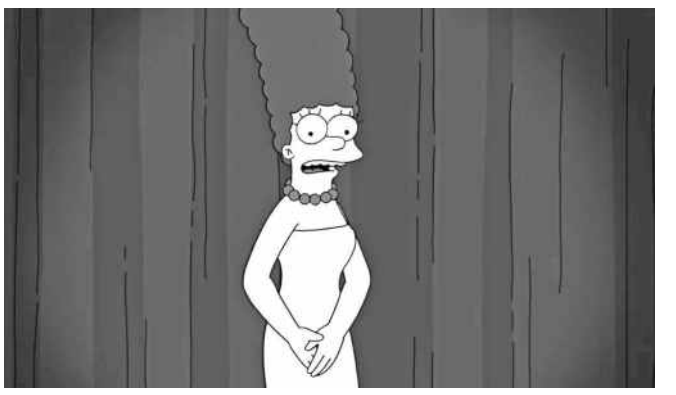
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Marge Simpson has advice for a lawyer with the Trump campaign: Do not name call.

In a clip posted Friday by Fox's animated series "The Simpsons," matriarch Marge chided the attorney over a tweet comparing her voice to that of the Democratic vice presidential contender, Sen. Kamala Harris.

"I usually don't get into politics, but the president's senior adviser, Jenna Ellis, just said Kamala Harris sounds like me," Marge says in the clip, adding that daughter Lisa Simpson says "she doesn't mean it as a compliment."

"If that's so, as an ordinary suburban housewife, I'm starting to feel a little disrespected," Marge said, balefully. "I teach my children not to name call, Jenna."

Earlier this week, President Donald Trump tweeted that the "'suburban housewife' will be voting for me" because he "ended the long running program where low income housing would invade their neighborhood."



This image released by Fox shows Marge Simpson, a character on the animated television series "The Simpsons." AP

As the half-minute clip ends, an off-camera Marge is heard muttering: "I was gonna say I'm pissed off, but I'm afraid they'd bleep it."

Harris of California was announced this week as presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden's pick for his running mate. The party's convention will be held next week, mostly virtually because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Ellis, senior lawyer for President Donald Trump's reelection campaign, did not immediately respond Friday to a request for comment. The campaign also did not immediately respond when asked for comment.

R. Kelly's manager charged with phone threats to theater

NEW YORK (AP)—R. Kelly's manager has been arrested in California on charges that he threatened a shooting at a Manhattan theater two years ago, forcing an evacuation and the cancellation of the screening of a documentary addressing allegations that the singer had sexually abused women and girls.

Donnell Russell, 45, of Chicago, was charged with conspiracy and with threatening physical harm by interstate communication.

He appeared remotely Friday from Los Angeles before a magistrate judge in Manhattan. He was permitted to remain free on $75,000 bail. An email seeking comment was sent to his court-appointed lawyer.

The charge comes on the heels of Russell being charged in Brooklyn federal court earlier this week with harassing a Kelly victim and her mother after the unidentified woman filed a lawsuit against Kelly. Authorities said Russell sent a letter to the woman's lawyer with cropped nude photographs of her and later sent her a text warning her: "Pull the plug or you will be exposed."

In the latest case, authorities said the threats by Kelly's manager and adviser in December 2018 forced the cancellation of the screening of Lifetime's "Surviving R. Kelly" series at the NeueHouse Madison Square as police took precautions, although they determined that there was no imminent threat.

Down-on-his-luck roommate turns out to be a hoarder

DEAR ABBY: Last month, I found out a friend of mine was going to be living out of his van. I couldn't let him do that, so I offered him my second bedroom and put him on the lease.

He told me Uber doesn't pay much, and he couldn't afford half the $1,700-a-month rent, so we agreed he would pay what he could, roughly $200-$300 of the $1,700. I said it was OK because I didn't take him in for money purposes. I did it to help a friend in need, and I had spare space.

I quickly found out that he's a hoarder. His entire bedroom is full of his boxes of stuff (manga, anime, books, etc., not furniture or a TV), so much so that he's been sleeping on my living room couch. He also spends all his time at home and Ubered only the last two days of the month to make the $200 to pay me.

I guess my question is, our agreement was $200-$300 a month, which he paid, but does finding out he's working only two days a month to make it change our agreement?

TOOK IN A LOST PUPPY IN HAWAII

DEAR TOOK: May I point out that when you took this "puppy" in, it wasn't so he'd be sleeping on your couch but in the spare room? He shouldn't be using YOUR living room or YOUR couch for sleeping.

Because you put this freeloader on the lease -- for what reason, I cannot fathom -- you may need an attorney to get him out of there. Rather than working two days a month to pay that minuscule amount of rent to you, he should be driving enough hours to accumulate a down payment on a place of his own. To say that your kindness has been taken advantage of is an understatement.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a 21-year-old woman who hasn't been very lucky when it comes to relationships. My first real relationship wasn't until I was 20, and it didn't last too long. I have "talked" to quite a few guys, but they never went past the "getting to know you" stage.

I was able to figure out things I wanted and didn't want in a relationship. My best friend for the last eight years has always been there to help me get through some pretty hard times. He has all the qualities I'm looking for in someone. He's smart, funny, honest, caring and is literally a male version of me.

When we were younger, he told me he had feelings for me, but I only saw him as a friend. Everyone would tell us we should be together, but I ignored it. After years of knowing I didn't feel the same way, he gave up trying to progress our friendship into something more. I always told him I didn't want to get romantically involved because I value his friendship too much and I didn't want to lose him.

He recently started a relationship with someone, and it made me realize I might have romantic feelings for him that I haven't had before. I don't know what to do. Please help.

TOO LATE IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR TOO LATE: The longer you remain silent, the greater the chances that your friend's new relationship could develop into something serious. Tell him all the qualities you think are special about him (minus the one about being your "clone"). Then follow it up with the fact that it wasn't until he started this new romantic relationship that you realized you have those kinds of feelings for him. Better late than never.

■■■

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

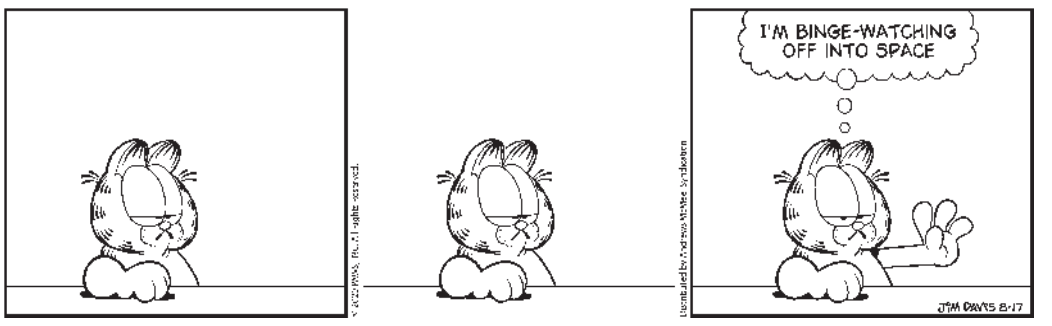
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

THIS MEETING OF TOP-SECRET CLUB G.R.O.S.S. (GET RID OF SLIMY GIRLS) WILL COME TO ORDER, SUPREME RULER AND DICTATOR-FOR-LIFE CALVIN PRESIDING!
HEAR HEAR!
PRESIDENT AND FIRST TIGER HOBBES WILL NOW PROVIDE US WITH AN ATTENDANCE REPORT.
ALL PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR, SIR!
EXCELLENT! NOW CLUB SECRETARY GENERAL HOBBES WILL REVIEW THE MINUTES.
IT'S 10:32.
THANK YOU. AT THIS TIME WE'LL HAVE A FIELD REPORT FROM TOP SCOUT CALVIN!
YOU CAN TELL THIS IS A GREAT CLUB BECAUSE WE HAVE SO MANY OFFICERS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



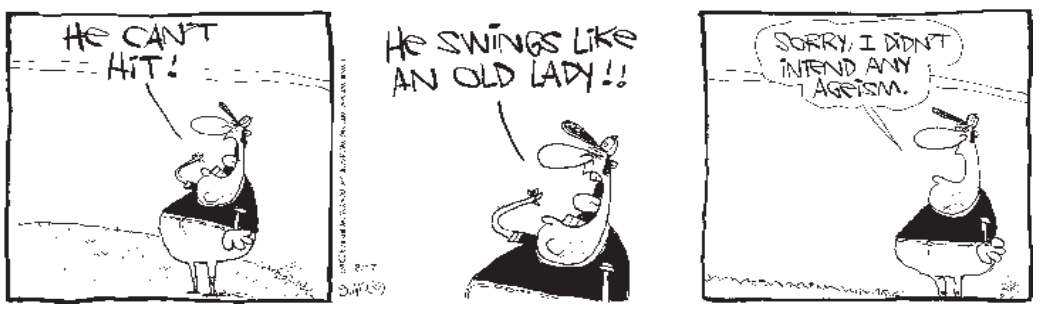
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I MADE SOMETHING NEW! COFFEE PANCAKES!
OH! I'VE HEARD OF THOSE.
NOT LIKE MINE. EACH PANCAKE IS EQUAL TO TWO CUPS OF COFFEE.
WHOA. THAT SOUNDS A LITTLE...
I'LL BE IN MY OFFICE.
ADAM.
8-17

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Spheres
5 Julius Erving's nickname
8 "Apollo 13" org.
12 Italian dessert
14 Unrefined metals
15 Hipsters
16 "Breaking Bad" drug
17 Designer Claiborne
18 Lowbrow
20 Vietnam capital
23 Aussie greeting
24 "There oughta be —!"
25 "Awe-some!"
28 Chick's mom
29 Golfer Palmer, to fans
30 Ms. Farrow
32 Engine fluid
34 Tranquil
35 India's continent
36 Like some mouth-wash
37 Portable PC
40 Distant
41 Competent
42 Remain calm
47 Construc-tion piece
48 Intensify
49 Sun beams
50 Perched
51 Gaelic

DOWN
1 Like aspirin, briefly
2 Carnival city
3 Buddy
4 Yellowish
5 Actress Cameron
6 Letters after Q
7 Nike slogan
8 Deli request
9 Villain in "Wonder Woman"
10 "Family Guy" creator Mac-Farlane
11 Wan
13 DLI doubled
19 Indy event
20 Taunting laugh
21 Mr. Guinness
22 iPod model
23 "— Fly Now" ("Rocky" theme)
25 Rambles
26 Yemen neighbor
27 Happy tune
29 Too
31 "Little Women" woman
33 Westerns
34 Sewing group
36 Poet Angelou
37 Hide-away
38 "Water-loo" group
39 Theater produc-tion
40 Datum
43 Airport screening org.
44 Scull tool
45 NFL tie-breakers
46 Director Spike

Solution time: 26 mins.

J	A	R	■	S	L	A	V	■	S	A	T	E
O	B	I	■	C	O	L	E	■	U	S	E	D
B	A	T	H	R	O	B	E	■	B	I	N	G
■	■	Z	O	O	M	■	■	F	U	S	S	Y
S	K	I	E	D	■	T	B	A	R	■	■	■
T	O	E	S	■	C	O	L	D	B	A	T	H
A	L	S	■	S	O	R	T	S	■	D	R	Y
B	A	T	H	M	A	T	S	■	A	V	I	D
■	■	■	E	E	L	S	■	P	R	O	B	E
P	S	H	A	W	■	■	G	U	A	C	■	■
R	O	I	L	■	B	I	R	D	B	A	T	H
E	L	L	E	■	I	D	I	G	■	T	A	B
P	O	O	R	■	C	O	T	Y	■	E	G	O

Last Friday's Answer 08/17

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15								■	16			
■	■	■	17			■	18	19				
20	21	22			■	23				■	■	■
24				■	25					26	27	■
28			■	29					■	30		31
■	32		33					■	34			
■	■	■	35				■	36				
37	38	39				■	40			■	■	■
41				■	42	43				44	45	46
47					48							
49				■	50			■	51			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Austin Butler, 29; Tammy Townsend, 50; Donnie Wahlberg, 51; Robert De Niro, 77.

Happy Birthday: Take stock of what you've accomplished and how you want to move forward. Having a plan in place will help you reach your goal with the least amount of struggle. You'll have added discipline this year, so put it to good use and pursue personal and professional goals that will boost your confidence and enhance your life. Your numbers are 9, 13, 24, 27, 31, 39, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Put pent-up energy to good use. You can take physical action and get things done, or you can stew over what everyone else is doing and achieve little. Use intelligence and physical capabilities to make a difference in the way plans turn out. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Choose what feels right. Refuse to let your emotions take over or deter you from making the best decision. An opportunity is heading your way, and being mentally prepared to take advantage of the situation will make a difference. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Consider what's important to you, and focus your energy and time on projects that will bring about change. Home improvements, personal relationships and remaining rational when faced with emotional choices are favored. Honesty is the best policy. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Look at your budget before you commit to a project or make a donation. Take care of your needs before you extend a helping hand to others. Being responsible as well as benevolent will help you maintain balance and integrity. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Take the initiative to research and gather valuable information to ensure your pursuits are attainable. Leave nothing to chance, update documents before they lapse and make decisions that will ease stress. Keep life simple and projects doable. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Set the standard, do things your way and aim to reach your goal. How you conduct your life and business will reflect the way others treat you. Stand by your word, and compromise when necessary. You will gain respect. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* An upbeat approach will deter negativity and disgruntled and demanding people. Offering positive alternatives will encourage others to pick up the pace and help. A partnership with someone who shares your enthusiasm looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Be reasonable, and you'll get your way. Kick up a fuss, and you'll end up working alone. A change is in order. Assess your life, attitude, the way you look and the changes you want to make. Make personal growth a priority. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You are gaining leverage, so don't stop pushing for what you want. High energy, intelligence and working diligently to reach your goal will pay off. Don't let the past hold you back. Discarding what no longer works for you is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't start something you can't finish. An argument with a friend or relative will cause emotional turmoil with someone you love. Focus on what you can do to keep the peace. Including love and romance in your plans will enhance your life. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Strike up a conversation to help you resolve a sensitive issue. Offer suggestions and compromise if necessary to keep your plans moving forward and avoid an emotional scene. Get back to basics and what works best for you. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A personal change will make you feel good. Make unique plans with someone who means the world to you, and good things will unfold. Don't let an outsider take advantage of your time or talk you into spending money. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are chatty, intelligent and generous. You are kind and emotional.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	6		2		5		7	
2		9	7					1
			6				9	
8				3		7	1	5
				7				
9	7	5		6				3
	1				8			
6					7	3		8
	4		9		6		5	

Difficulty Level ★ 8/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	3	9	8	6	1	7	5	2
1	8	6	5	2	7	4	9	3
7	2	5	3	9	4	8	6	1
8	1	3	4	5	6	9	2	7
5	7	2	1	8	9	6	3	4
9	6	4	7	3	2	1	8	5
6	5	7	2	1	8	3	4	9
2	4	8	9	7	3	5	1	6
3	9	1	6	4	5	2	7	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/17

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS Solution: 7 letters

A	A	H	F	O	O	R	P	C	Y	A	W	B	U	S
S	U	B	S	C	R	I	P	T	I	O	N	S	T	O
E	T	T	S	I	V	S	B	U	T	S	E	R	O	L
A	H	H	H	T	U	A	Ⓟ	P	S	U	O	N	U	O
T	O	E	O	E	N	G	R	Ⓐ	N	P	R	O	R	T
S	R	A	W	D	N	E	N	E	Ⓢ	E	E	I	S	T
O	I	T	S	N	S	T	V	I	S	Ⓢ	P	S	V	E
C	Z	E	C	E	N	E	I	E	T	E	A	S	O	R
B	A	R	L	I	C	S	R	C	S	S	P	I	U	Y
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Last Friday's Answer: Mail

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Blazers oust Grizzlies, set playoff date vs Lakers

FRLOIDA (AP)A fourth consecutive down-to-the-wire finish, a fourth consecutive win for the Portland Trail Blazers.

They needed all that just to get into the playoffs.

Damian Lillard scored 31 points, CJ McCollum had 14 of his 29 in the fourth quarter—including a pair of big jumpers over Ja Morant late—and the Blazers clinched the NBA's final playoff spot by beating the Memphis Grizzlies 126-122 on Saturday.

Portland's reward: a matchup with the top-seeded Los Angeles Lakers, starting Tuesday. Jusuf Nurkic had 22 points and 21 rebounds for the winners, who got 21 points from Carmelo Anthony.

"What we've done in these two weeks is really special," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "I couldn't be more proud of a group of guys because we were up against it every game, nine straight games where our season was basically in the balance. ... They found a way."

Morant scored 35 for Memphis, which got a 22-point, 16-rebound day from Jonas Valanciunas and 20 points apiece from Dillon Brooks and Brandon Clarke.

It was the start, and the end, of the Western Conference play-in series—a wrinkle the NBA added to the restarted season because the coronavirus pandemic meant no team would play its allotted 82 games. Portland finished eighth in the West, Memphis was ninth, and the Grizzlies needed to sweep a two-game matchup to advance.

They had a chance, up eight in the final quarter, before Portland did what Portland does in the bubble—pull games out at the end. The Blazers' last four wins have come by a combined 11 points.

So they go on, and Memphis goes home—knowing its potential is very real.

"I'm going to be able to sleep and live well during the summer, despite a tough loss, knowing that we put in so much work and we were that close to getting into the playoffs," Memphis coach Taylor Jenkins said. "These guys, the first words they said when we got in the locker room was, `We've got a lot of work to do."

Nurkic, playing with a heavy heart because of his grandmother's death, grabbed an offensive rebound and wound up converting a three-point play with 2:39 left to put Portland on top for good.

McCollum—playing with a fracture in his back—connected on a 3-pointer and another long jumper late, both times guarded by Morant, to ensure Portland kept the lead, and Anthony's 3-pointer with 20.2 seconds left was the last big shot the Blazers needed.

Nurkic revealed on Instagram about 90 minutes before the game that his grandmother, back in his native Bosnia, had died. His post did not disclose the cause of death, but Nurkic said last month that she had tested positive for COVID-19 and briefly slipped into a coma in recent days.

"She would have wanted me to play," Nurkic said after the game.

Memphis led 94-89 going into the fourth quarter, the last three points in that five-point margin coming on a brilliant recovery by Morant.

The soon-to-be Rookie of the Year attacked the rim, his drive thwarted by the outstretched arms of Blazers 7-footer Hassan Whiteside. Morant, undeterred, simply ran down the loose ball and tapped it out to the right corner where Clarke connected on a 3-pointer.

"We are right there ... time to get ready for next season," Morant said.

Lillard wins Bubble MVP

Lillard has been unanimously selected as the top player of the NBA's seeding games at Walt Disney World, after averaging a league-best 37.6 points in the eight games.

Phoenix's Monty Williams, who led the Suns to a perfect 8-0 record in the bubble, was chosen as the top coach of the seeding-game schedule.

Joining Lillard on the first team for games played at Disney between July 30 and Friday's end of the seeding-game season was Phoenix's Devin Booker, Indiana's T.J. Warren, Dallas' Luka Doncic and Houston's James Harden.

Booker was second in the Bubble MVP race, with Warren third.

Second-team selections were Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo, the Los Angeles Clippers' Kawhi Leonard, Brooklyn's Caris LeVert, Denver's Michael Porter Jr. and Dallas' Kristaps Porzingis.

Stojakovic resigns

A day after Vlade Divac stepped down as Sacramento Kings general manager, Peja Stojakovic resigned as assistant GM on Saturday.

Another former great from the franchise, Stojakovic had worked in front office executive roles since 2015—the past two as assistant general manager.

Joe Dumars was appointed interim GM on Friday when the Kings announced Divac's departure after a 14th straight season without a playoff berth. That's the longest active drought in the NBA and one shy of the record.

The Kings went 39-43 in the 2018-19 season, showing progress under coach Dave Joerger. But the team fired Joerger after the season and replaced him with Luke Walton. Sacramento then went 31-41 this season.

Pelicans coach fired

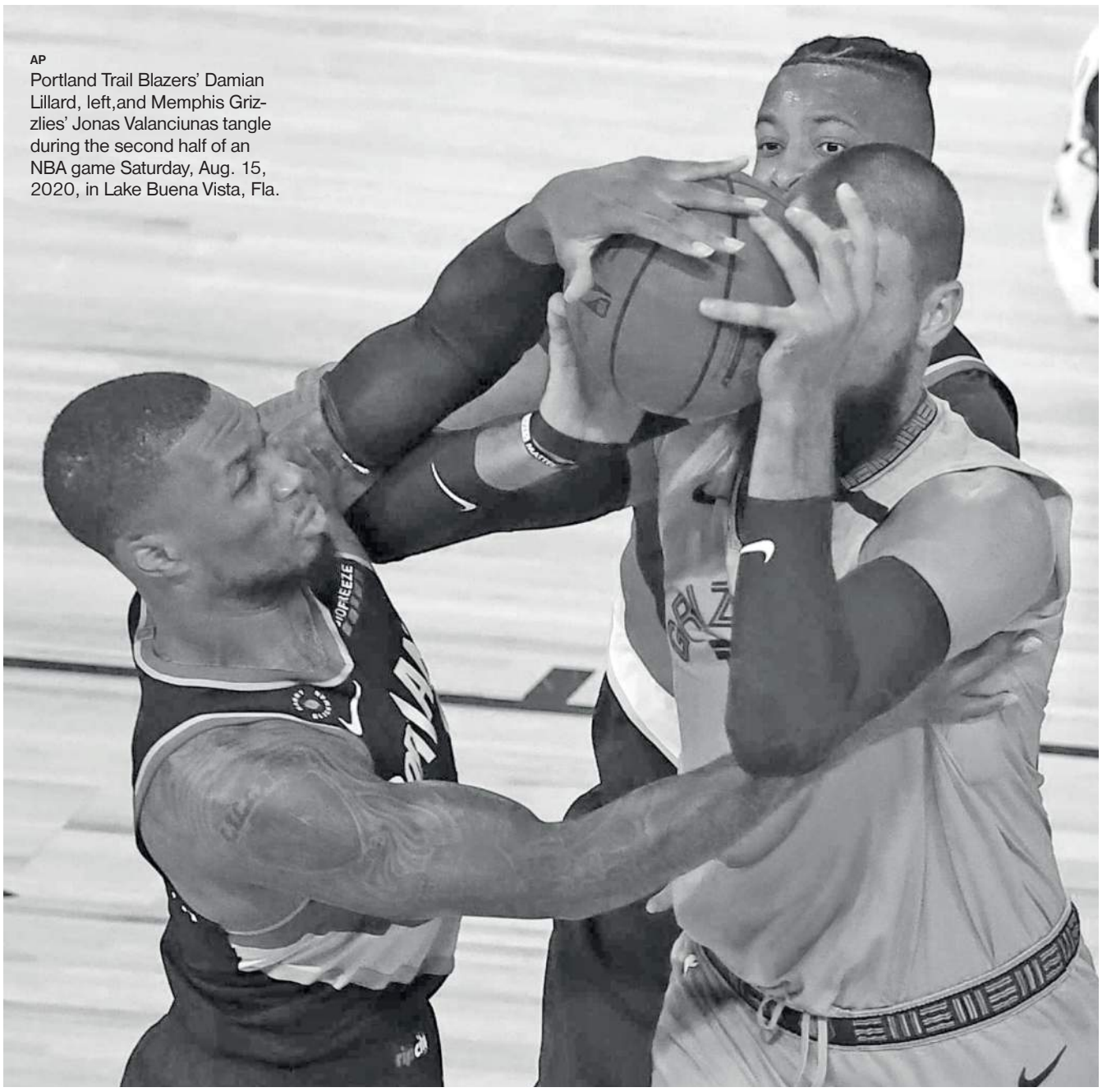
The New Orleans Pelicans are looking for a new coach to oversee the still nascent Zion Williamson era.

The Pelicans fired 65-year-old coach Alvin Gentry on Saturday after the club missed the playoffs for the fourth time in five seasons.

New Orleans went 30-42 this season, finishing with just two victories in its final eight games despite the presence of top overall draft choice Zion Williamson and first-time All-Star Brandon Ingram in the lineup until the club was eliminated from playoff contention with two games to play.

But Griffin asserted during a video media conference that a coaching change might have been forthcoming even if New Orleans had rallied to capture one of the Western Conference's final playoff spots.

"The wins and losses have very little to do with this," Griffin said.



AP
Portland Trail Blazers' Damian Lillard, left,and Memphis Grizzlies' Jonas Valanciunas tangle during the second half of an NBA game Saturday, Aug. 15, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Doncic ready for first playoff run

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP)—Luka Doncic would like to clear up a bit of a misconception: He has playoff experience.

Then again, he also knows what awaits now is different.

For the first time since 1990, the Dallas Mavericks are going to the playoffs without Dirk Nowitzki on the roster. The German great retired after last season, officially passing the torch as leader of the Mavs to Doncic—the Slovene who nearly averaged a 30-point triple-double in just his second NBA season.

So, no, he hasn't seen what the NBA playoffs are like.

There's also no reason to think Doncic isn't ready for this stage.

"Yes, it is the playoffs, but I have been in the playoffs before, just in Europe," said the 21-year-old Doncic, who was still a teenager when he led Real Madrid to the EuroLeague title and was basically considered the best player in that league two years ago. "It is not the same level, but it is the same emotions. I am excited for sure."

He should be.

Doncic finished the season averaging 28.8 points, 9.4 rebounds and 8.8 assists. The only other players who posted those numbers for a full season are Oscar Robertson, who did it four times, and Russell Westbrook.

He led the NBA with 17 triple-doubles. He was an All-Star for the first of what will likely be many times. He was one of two players—reigning MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Milwaukee Bucks was the only other—to have season-highs of at least 20 rebounds and 15 assists.

"He's a phenomenal player and he's getting better," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "Like, by the hour. By the day."

Doncic's first playoff series won't be any cakewalk. The seventh-seeded Mavericks open the Western Conference postseason against the second-seeded Los Angeles Clippers, a team that features reigning Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard.

The Clippers have legitimate title aspirations—but they also speak with obvious respect for Doncic.

"Luka is going to be a handful," Clippers guard Lou Williams said. "Dallas plays extremely hard. We just saw these guys last week. Well-coached team. When they're on the court, they're all going to play hard. ... It will be highly entertaining, a lot of talented guys on the floor."

The Clippers have some of the best defensive players in the NBA: Leonard, Paul George and Patrick Beverley among them.

The Mavericks? Behind Doncic, they only assembled the greatest year in NBA history in terms of offensive efficiency. They finished the regular season averaging 116.7 points per 100 possessions, almost a full point ahead of the mark set by Golden State last season.

Doncic's offensive gifts—and there are many—are obviously a major factor why Dallas scores with such ease. Carlisle played with Larry Bird. He coached Jason Kidd. He knows elite passing and orchestrating when he sees it, and he's not afraid to put Doncic in their class.

"He knows where everybody is, not only on offense, but defense," Carlisle said. "That's the sign of, you know, a savant-type guy. ... Larry Bird, he could see everything like that. Jason Kidd, he could see everything like that."

Betts hits tying homer, Dodgers nip Angels in 10

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Chris Taylor scored on Max Muncy's sacrifice fly in the 10th inning, and the Los Angeles Dodgers rallied to beat the Los Angeles Angels 6-5 Saturday night for their season-high fourth consecutive victory.

Mookie Betts hit a tying homer in the seventh and drove in three runs for the NL West-leading Dodgers, who also got three RBI from Muncy while improving to 9-2 on the road this season.

"There was a lot of good things from tonight," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "That's a great lineup over there. They're not going to lay down, and for us to respond like we did ... was very encouraging."

Mike Trout homered and drove in three runs for the Angels, who have lost three straight and six of eight after dropping the first two in the Freeway Series.

The Dodgers went ahead in the 10th without a hit. Taylor started on second, stole third and scored easily on Muncy's fly to right off Keynan Middleton (0-1), who retired all three of his batters.

"We did so many things well," Angels manager Joe Maddon said. "We've just got to keep pounding on that door until we start winning the game of inches. ... I'm happy with the way we went after it tonight. They scored a run without getting a hit that last inning. That's part of the new method of baseball that everybody is clamoring for."

AP

Los Angeles Dodgers center fielder A.J. Pollock makes a sliding catch on a line drive by Los Angeles Angels' Anthony Rendon during the first inning of a baseball game Saturday, Aug. 15, 2020, in Anaheim, Calif.

Yankees 11, Red Sox 5

The next-man-up New York Yankees are at it again.

Clint Frazier homered, drove in five and made a diving catch filling in for injured right fielder Aaron Judge, Gary Sanchez went long in his third straight game, and New York overcame the loss of AL batting leader DJ LeMahieu to beat the Boston Red Sox.

Frazier had three hits, including a three-run drive, and matched a career high in RBI. Gio Urshela also homered for the Yankees, and Tyler Wade delivered an RBI double after replacing LeMahieu, who left with a sprained left thumb in the sixth inning and could be headed for the injured list.

New York has beaten Boston in eight straight meetings, its longest winning streak in the rivalry since 1985. The Yankees improved to 14-6 in this pandemic-shortened season—the franchise's best 20-game start since going 17-3 in 2003—despite losing Judge, Giancarlo Stanton, Aroldis Chapman and now LeMahieu to injury or illness.

"As always, the expectations in that room never change despite what happens," manager Aaron Boone said.

Braves 2, Marlins 1

Adam Duvall hit a tiebreaking home run off the foul pole with one out in the ninth inning, and the Atlanta Braves broke a four-game losing streak by beating the first-place Miami Marlins.

Atlanta's Max Fried pitched 6 1/3 shutout innings and was in line for his fourth victory until Monte Harrison hit his first major league homer leading off the eighth against Will Smith for a 1-all tie.

The Braves regained the lead when Duvall lunged at an outside pitch from Brandon Kintzler (1-1) and pulled it down the left field line.

Indians 3, Tigers 1

Shane Bieber struck out 11 in seven scoreless innings, and Cleveland beat Detroit for the 19th straight time.

Cleveland's winning streak against one opponent is the longest since the Baltimore Orioles beat the Kansas City Royals 23 times in a row in 1969.

Bieber (4-0) allowed three hits and a walk and lowered his ERA to 1.30 in five starts this season. Bieber fanned the side in the third and fourth and added two more in the fifth.

Nick Wittgren pitched a perfect eighth. JaCoby Jones made it 3-1 with a pinch-hit double in the ninth before Brad Hand finished for his fifth save.

Astros 2, Mariners 1

Rookie Cristian Javier allowed one hit over six shutout innings, Yuli Gurriel homered and Houston edged Seattle for its third straight win.

Javier (2-1) struck out five and walked three. He retired 10 of the first 12 batters before Kyle Seager walked and a single by Austin Nola accounted for the Mariners' only hit off the rookie in the fifth.

Gurriel extended Houston's lead to 2-0 in the fourth with a solo home run. Jose Altuve gave the Astros a 1-0 lead in the second on an RBI groundout, scoring Yordan Alvarez.

Evan White cut Houston's lead to 2-1 with a solo home run in the eighth.

Orioles 7, Nationals 3

Baltimore struck early against lefty Patrick Corbin and got a home run from Rio Ruiz in a victory over Washington.

Light-hitting Andrew Velazquez had two hits, scored twice and drove in a run for the Orioles, who have won seven of eight—a streak that includes four victories against Washington.

Corbin (2-1) was roughed up by the Orioles, who built a 4-0 lead in the second inning and held on. He allowed five runs and eight hits with just two strikeouts in five innings.

Juan Soto and Trea Turner homered for the Nationals, who closed to 5-3 in the sixth but couldn't complete the comeback.

Athletics 7, Giants 6

Mark Canha hit a go-ahead, three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning and Oakland rallied late for the second straight game, slugging past San Francisco.

Marcus Semien hit a two-run homer and Matt Olson also connected for the A's, who won for the 12th time in 14 games.

Darin Ruf put San Francisco ahead 6-3 with a three-run shot in the seventh before the bullpen squandered it again.

Trevor Gott (1-1) surrendered Sean Murphy's leadoff homer in the ninth that started the latest A's rally and a one-out double to Tony Kemp before walking Matt Olson, bringing up Canha.

Twins 4, Royals 1, Game 1
Royals 4, Twins 2, Game 2

Whit Merrifield had three hits, including a three-run homer, to back Danny Duffy's strong start as Kansas City took the second game of a doubleheader and earned a split with Minnesota.

Duffy (1-2) allowed two runs—one earned—on two hits in five innings. He struck out eight for Kansas City, which has won six of its past eight games, including a home sweep of Minnesota last week. Trevor Rosenthal issued a leadoff walk in the seventh but struck out the next three batters for his fifth save.

Nelson Cruz homered in both games of the doubleheader and now has 407 career home runs, tying Duke Snider for 56th on the all-time list.

Diamondbacks 7, Padres 6

Speedy Padres pinch runner Jorge Mateo was thrown out at the plate trying to score from first base on a single to end the game and Arizona held off San Diego.

The Padres nearly completed a late rally after trailing 7-1. San Diego scored twice in the eighth, then scored three times in the ninth.

The D-backs won their third straight and for the seventh time in 10 games. Arizona got 14 hits, including three singles by both David Peralta and Kelly.

Nick Ahmed hit a bases-loaded, two-run double to spark a four-run sixth.

Rangers 6, Rockies 4

Kyle Gibson pitched into the seventh inning for his first win with Texas and newly signed Derek Dietrich hit a two-out, three-run home run in the eighth as the Rangers won their fouth straight.

Shinn-Soo Choo had three hits and two RBI and Jose Trevino also had three hits for the Rangers, who ensured their third straight series win.

Trevor Story had three hits and Tony Wolters had a two-run double for the Rockies, who have lost five of six since an 11-3 start. Charlie Blackmon broke out of an 0-11 run at the plate with an eighth inning triple, leaving his batting average at .438.

Brewers 6, Cubs 5, 10 innings

Avisail Garcia doubled home the go-ahead run in the 10th inning and Milwaukee handed Chicago its first two-game losing streak this season.

Garcia doubled to deep right off Jeremy Jeffress (1-1) to score automatic runner Christian Yelich from second base to start the 10th. Luis Urias reached on an infield single for an additional run.

Alex Claudio retired three straight batters in the Cubs 10th for his first save. Ian Happ drove in a run with a groundout.

Cardinals 5, White Sox 1, Game 1
Cardinals 6, White Sox 3, Game 2

Paul Goldschmidt and Tyler O'Neill homered, and St. Louis completed a doubleheader sweep in St. Louis' long-awaited return from a coronavirus outbreak.

Playing for the first time since July 29, St. Louis used solid performances by Dexter Fowler and Adam Wainwright to post a victory in Game 1. Then it battered Chicago's bullpen in the second seven-inning game.

Eloy Jimenez and Luis Robert homered for Chicago in the second game, but the White Sox had just six hits on the day. Lucas Giolito (1-2) allowed five runs, four earned, and six hits in five innings in the opener.

Phillies 6, Mets 2

Rhys Hoskins hit a three-RBI double, Jean Segura hit a solo homer and Aaron Nola tossed seven scoreless innings to lead Philadelphia past New York for the second straight game.

Hoskins broke the game open in the fifth with a shot to right-center off Steven Matz (0-4) that cleared the bases and gave the Phillies a 5-0 lead.

Nola (2-1) tossed three-hit ball and struck out eight over his seven innings.

Belichick gives first practice impression on Newton

BOSTON—Bill Belichick is notoriously tight-lipped about, well—anything revelatory regarding the New England Patriots.

So when he addressed his assessment of Cam Newton by name, it drew some attention. Even if it involved the slightest of praise.

First-year Patriot Newton started the week behind team veterans Brian Hoyer and Jarrett Stidham in the quarterback practice rotation. Belichick had this to say Friday morning when asked about his performance in practice.

"We've done a lot of meetings, a lot of walkthroughs," Belichick told NBC Sports Boston. "A lot of information has been transferred to all the players. He's worked very hard, I'd say, as all our players have. We have a hard-working group. Those guys are ready to go, and we've put in some long days. They've been very attentive during the process."

Belichick then rambled on about how "locked in" and "focused" the entire quarterback group is before addressing Newton again.

"But again, we haven't played anywhere near the speed we're going to be playing at so we'll see how it all comes together at that point," Belichick continued. "But Cam's a hard-working kid. He really is."

It's an odd assessment of a 31-year-old, nine-year NFL veteran. But it's on par for Belichick. And the fact that he's publicly hanging any sort of praise on Newton is a sign that things are off to a good start in the early weeks of the post-Tom Brady era.

The NFL preseason was supposed to start on Thursday before it was canceled amid the league's COVID-19 negotiations with the player's union. The public's first look at Newton under center in New England will have to wait.

For now we're dependent on practice reports for glimpses at Newton's progress as he operates in what's being billed as a quarterback competition. Most expect the three-time Pro Bowler and former MVP to emerge on top.

So ... so far, so good.

Different feel in training camps

From the antimicrobial mist the Denver Broncos strolled through on their way to the practice fields to the hand-held whistles for masked-up coaches, NFL training camps have a very different look and feel this year.

No fans. No Gatorade buckets. No joint practices.

The league is spending tens of millions of dollars on daily COVID-19 testing, and some of the protocols put in place to navigate the coronavirus crisis have cost some prospects whatever long shot they had at making a roster.

They might have saved a life, however.

Linebacker Cam Smith tested positive for the virus when he reported to the Minnesota Vikings headquarters, and head athletic trainer Eric Sugarman recommended he get an echocardiogram.

Good thing, because the diagnostic follow-up revealed a congenital problem with his heart, which was severely enlarged. Smith is scheduled for open heart surgery on Aug. 24 and will miss the 2020 season.

"I wouldn't have ever known about this—or as soon as I do now—without getting tested for COVID and testing positive in that time frame," Smith said. "It does feel like it's a blessing in a way that I did test positive."

The fifth-round pick out of USC last year looks forward to returning in 2021 better than ever "because I'll be fixed. I'll be better, and I'll be in a healthier state than I have been for the past 23 years."

Longer odds

The already long odds of undrafted players making opening day rosters grew even more astronomical with the remote offseason, a reduction of 320 roster spots heading into training camp and the elimination of the entire 65-game preseason slate.

This likely deprives all of us of seeing the emergence of the next Malcom Butler or Chris Harris Jr. because players overlooked in the draft will have a harder time turning heads as teams focus on getting their starters ready for the season and not finding the next unpolished gem at the bottom of the roster.

FLASHBACK

From Page 20

ended that losing skid.

Before the multiple record-breaking win, the CNMI faced a 5-9 deficit after five complete innings. The Commonwealth then managed to work its way back into the game and stole the victory from Canada, thanks to LaMarc Iguel, Jeremy Rabauliman, and Brian Camacho. Iguel closed out for the CNMI and shut down the Coquitlam Little League of Coquitlam, British Columbia in the remaining innings, while Jeremy Rabauliman and Brian Camacho led the team's offense after hitting back-to-back homers.

Rabauliman had a three-run homer at the bottom of the first, while Camacho went solo. The pair of round-trippers were a first for the CNMI in more than a decade. The last time the team made back-to-back homers in the World Series was in 1997 when Pete Tomokane and the CNMI Big League All-Stars made it to Fort Lauderdale.

The Commonwealth sluggers went on to finish the World Series with a 2-2 record, as they lost to Aruba, 4-6, and Puerto Rico, 1-11. The team from Scottsdale, Arizona topped the 2009 World Series after beating Aruba, 9-1.

Meanwhile, besides Rabauliman, Camacho, and Iguel, other members of the notable CNMI Junior League All-Stars were Christian Mizer, Henry Rabauliman, Frankie Camacho, Ricardo Dela Cruz, Aldelbert Lizama, Brian Camacho, Alan Aguon, Jared Sablan, Patrick Tenorio, Arthur Jebehn, and Poland Masaharu. Oliver Secharmidal and Bernard Cabrera were the coaches.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2009 file photo, the CNMI All-Star Team players wait for the start of the raffle drawing, a fundraiser for their World Series trip in Michigan.

NMI

From Page 20

Michiteru Mita.

"I have coached many different countries and I know some countries use overage or ineligible players to get wins immediately and that hurts their future development. NMIFA's policy and priority is developing football. We all try to our best to win the game, but at the same time we are thinking more about how to continue developing our football in the next 10 years rather than win immediately," said Mita, who is also the head coach of the CNMI Men's National Team.

"We focus not only on national teams but also grassroots, coach education, youth development and all programs that include men and women, and our children. We are a small football country, but we work on all these core strategies to develop football. That's way CNMI football keeps improving. I think [Henderson] story understands our effort," added the NMIFA technical director, who manages the national team pools' restricted training sessions at this time of the pandemic to prepare for competitions ahead.

Mita also said NMIFA is patiently working on its way up and he appreciates the time, dedication, and efforts all the stakeholders in the program have been giving to put CNMI soccer in the right direction towards becoming a force in the region.

"European countries took more than 100 years to build their football culture. We are only in our 15th year since the FA establishment, but we have already achieved many things. We have to be humble and keep working harder than others to continue to improve," the national coach said.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Youth player Sebastien Manabat participates in the CNMI national team's training session at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last month.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2018 file photo, CNMI Men's National Team's Ryan Relucio battles a Mongolian player for a header during their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator.

Entanglement with carbs and cardio before or after

Ask DRE:

By DRE DELOS SANTOS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dre Delos Santos writes about fitness and nutrition for Saipan Tribune *and* TAGA Sports*. He is a personal trainer at Gold's Gym. He is featured on fitness sites such as Weight Watchers, T-Nation, and STACK.*

Q: Is it better to do cardio before lifting weights or after?

A: In the context of strength and muscle building, it'd be much more favorable to hit the weights first. Doing cardio before interferes with those adaptations, and the type and duration will influence the extent of the interference. Therefore, do it after.

Now, if your schedule permits creating a modest gap in between your strength and cardio work proves to be the clear-cut best option, as research suggests. For example, do your lifting early in the morning and then go for a run or a brisk walk later in the evening or on a separate day. If we're talking about getting in better shape and losing weight, it really doesn't matter when you do it. Just remember to not overdo it on cardio.

Q: Will eating less carbs help move the needle faster in losing weight?

A: Much of what we thought about carbs being the culprit is now being looked at in a different manner. Self-proclaimed keto and intermittent fasting gurus will argue 'til death about this, but with a ton of evidence, it's clear that a diet low in carbohydrates isn't any better for general fat loss.

This isn't to say limiting your carbohydrate intake isn't a viable choice. Abstaining from certain food groups especially hyper palatable ones for a period of time can be advantageous at the onset of a diet because it induces a deficit in your daily consumption. With that in mind, as long as you're managing your diet appropriately and getting in sufficient protein having carbs within reason isn't going to have a negative impact on reaching your goals.

Blazers oust Grizzlies, set playoff date vs Lakers

PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Betts hits tying homer, Dodgers nip Angels in 10

PAGE 18

NMI soccer gets noticed

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Several youth players made it to the starting unit of the CNMI Men's National Team that competed in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's may be ineligible to compete in the World Cup qualifying for now, but its continued efforts in developing a strong and sustainable national team are not left unnoticed.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this 2018 file photo, the CNMI Men's National Team's John Michael Rojas steals the ball from a Macau player during their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

In a story from a football website, writer Mark Henderson made special mention of the Commonwealth's national team even though it's not included on the squad that are preparing for the 2022 World Cup qualifying matches, which have been postponed to next year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Henderson of From The Tofu Bowl—a website dedicate to bringing original stories and opinion about East Asian football—discussed the East Asian Football Federation-member countries' bid to earn tickets to the 2022 World Cup that will be held in Qatar. China, Guam, Chinese-Taipei, Japan, North and South Korea, Mongolia, Hong Kong, and Macau were on Henderson's list, as they are all part of the EAFF. The CNMI, also an EAFF member, capped the roster.

"Northern Mariana Islands are a part of the EAFF, and a part of the AFC, but are not a member of FIFA, and therefore do not compete in World Cup qualifying. They're probably more famous for Roy Keane spitting his dummy out in Saipan during the 2002 World Cup, but the powers that be in Northern Mariana Islands football [Northern Mariana Islands Football Association] are working hard to change that," Henderson said.

The football enthusiasts, who is from Newcastle in England, but is now based in Chinese-Taipei, also took note of the CNMI utilizing its homegrown talents for international competitions, such as EAFF and AFC-sanctioned tournaments.

"They give a lot of chances to younger players, when they played in the EAFF Championship. I believe they had the youngest squad there, so it is good for the players to get chances so young," Henderson said.

In the same story, Henderson discussed Mongolia's chances in the World Cup qualifiers and how it "will feel justified in being at this stage of qualifying [Asian Cup preliminary round instead of the third round of World Cup qualifying] after being cheated out of the qualifying process last time around by East Timor's fake Brazilians who claimed they were eligible to represent them when they weren't."

Providing opportunities to young players to suit up for the national team and tapping homegrown talents are the integral parts of the CNMI soccer program, according to NMIFA technical director

See NMI on Page 19

Flashback: Multiple records for CNMI Junior All-Stars

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

On this day in 2009, the CNMI Junior All-Star Team made several records in the World Series in Taylor, Michigan.

The Thelma Mizer-managed squad pulled off a come-from-behind 11-9 win over Canada for the team's second victory in the International Pool.

Earlier in the first game, the CNMI All-Stars routed Italy, 13-2. The CNMI played in the World Series (Junior League) from 2001 to 2005, but in each occasion, no team had won more than one game.

The 2009 squad was also the first team to beat Canada. The Commonwealth's three wins in the five-year span were all against countries from Europe. No squad, too from Asia Pacific had defeated Canada since 2001 before the CNMI Junior All-Stars

See FLASHBACK on Page 19

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Brian Camacho, seen here pitching in a 2009 file photo, scored a homer in the CNMI Junior All-Stars' 11-9 win over Canada in the 2009 World Series in Taylor, Michigan.